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TRAVELLER

# LATIN AMERICA

COLLECTION

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# Editor's letter

## LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION 2024



Is there anywhere in the world more evocatively named than Tierra del Fuego, aka 'Land of Fire'? I confess that I didn't know why this archipelago between Argentina and Chile was named as such until I read this issue's fascinating feature on Puerto Williams, the world's southernmost city (p30). It turns out the appellation was coined when Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was traversing this part of the world during his quest to circumnavigate the globe in the early 1600s. It was here where he spotted the prodigious bonfires of the Selk'nam people as he journeyed along the South American coastline.

Today, Indigenous peoples across the continent are gaining recognition for their husbandry of the natural world — and looking to share their culture with travellers, too. This is just one of the developments making Latin America one of the most exciting destinations for 2024.

In this issue, we look at what makes the region such a hotspot for LGBTQ+ travel (p10), from the beaches of Rio de Janeiro to the pulsing nightlife of Mexico City. Then it's off to the emerald rainforests of Costa Rica, where we discover high-tech conservation methods while keeping an eye out for pumas and howler monkeys (p18). After working up an appetite, it's time to find the best beef in Buenos Aires (p24) by visiting the city's most vibrant *parrillas* (grills).

Finally, there's our roundup of the best resorts, hotels and lodges, brought to you by our advertising partners, to help inspire you when planning your next Latin American adventure.

## Zane Henry, editor

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[alpacaexpeditions.com](http://alpacaexpeditions.com)







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## LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION

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Machu Picchu at sunset, Peru.  
Image: Getty









IMAGE: GETTY

# LATIN PRIDE

WITH MUSEUMS, CULTURE, NIGHTLIFE, FAMILY OUTINGS AND SAFE SPACES TO RELAX IN, LATIN AMERICA HAS MUCH TO OFFER LGBTQ+ TRAVELLERS.  
WORDS: MICHAEL LUONGO

Latin America is a vast region of over 656 million inhabitants. Stretching across two continents, it's a storied location where people and cultures from Europe, Africa, the Americas and elsewhere mixed and settled. Spanish and Portuguese, vestiges of two rival superpowers, are the dominant languages. The ancient empires, Aztec, Incan, Mayan and others, still make their presence known — from the archaeological highlights of museums to the living spectacles of carnivals, parades and religious celebrations, like the macabre Day of the Dead and the continued worship of goddesses like Yemanjá brought from the West African coast.

The region's powerhouse cities are where LGBTQ+ nightlife, culture and political progress are most visible, from the Beaux-Arts streets of Buenos Aires to the sun-kissed Rio de Janeiro, with its spectacular natural setting of mountains and beaches. Indeed, it's these sandy stretches many tourists come to Latin America for, whether they're seeking the golden shores of the Caribbean coast or the dramatic, mountainous landscapes that butt against the Pacific, creating conditions that every surfer dreams of.



## ARGENTINA

One of the most thrilling of all Latin American destinations, glamorous Buenos Aires should be the starting point of every Argentine adventure. It's also one of the world's leading countries on LGBTQ+ human rights issues — it passed a national same-sex marriage equality law in 2010, five years before the US and three before the UK. Peppered with French Beaux-Arts architecture, Buenos Aires is crisscrossed by grand boulevards and marble-embellished monuments. Visitors will find hundreds of bookshops to explore, the most famous of which, El Ateneo Grand Splendid, is housed in a former theatre. There are cafes, museums and a glittering opera house. To walk along any street, especially the Nueve de Julio, is a dizzying experience.

### Nightlife

Buenos Aires is home to some of the best LGBTQ+ nightlife on the continent, and it's not for the faint hearted. Things don't get going until past midnight, with locals out long after sunrise. Club Amerika in the Almagro neighbourhood is the city's largest nightclub and a centre point of LGBTQ+ nightlife. El Lugar Gay is a small, men-only budget hotel located in the historic San Telmo neighbourhood, an area known for its Sunday antiques fair and tango performances.

[facebook.com/amerikadisco](https://facebook.com/amerikadisco) [lugargay.com.ar](http://lugargay.com.ar)

### Culture

Though a controversial figure in Argentina, former First Lady Eva Perón, better known as Evita, remains one of the country's most well-known figures — a Dior-clad gay icon to many LGBTQ+ locals, with stars like Madonna, Patti LuPone and Elaine Paige having portrayed her. Her myth, mystery, legend and wardrobe are explored at Museo Evita in the elegant Palermo neighbourhood. [museoevita.org.ar](http://museoevita.org.ar)

### Family

This nightlife-oriented city has plenty for queer family gaycations, from watching the famous 'cat ladies' take care of felines in Recoleta Cemetery to the Abasto neighbourhood's Museo de los Niños, with educational science activities for children. Argentina's Patagonian region makes an excellent option for skiing or hiking trips in Bariloche. Those of drinking age will enjoy Mendoza, an important wine region, where the Malbec grape reigns supreme. [museoabasto.org.ar](http://museoabasto.org.ar)

**HOW TO DO IT:** HE Travel, one of the oldest gay travel companies in the world, offers a multi-day trip to Argentina taking in Buenos Aires, Patagonia and beyond, with extensions available for Iguazú Falls and Antarctica. Pricing and dates to be determined and have ranged from about \$8,000 (£6,250) per person. [hetravel.com](http://hetravel.com)

## BRAZIL

Few places in Latin America rival the powerhouse experience that is Brazil. One of the largest countries in the world, this South American nation pulsates with a landscape as diverse as its people, with thousands of miles of beachfront, metropolitan cities, mountains and the Amazon rainforest, to name just a few points of interest. With so much to see and do, it's hard to choose what to start with first in Brazil, and many LGBTQ+ travellers make repeat visits.

### Nightlife

Rio is an effervescent metropolis and former capital where neighbourhoods jostle between mountains and beaches, the giant art deco statue of Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado mountain rising above it all. The highlight of the year is Carnival — the largest such celebration in the world — in February or March, depending on the Easter calendar. It's all about the beaches here and two are main centres of LGBTQ+ life — Ipanema, especially its Rua Farme de Amoedo gay beach, and the densely urban Copacabana beach, where locals and visitors alike pose for sunset photos with the curvaceous Sugarloaf Mountain in the background. A Brazilian cultural highlight is in Rio's Flamengo Park, which is home to the Carmen Miranda Museum, celebrating the actress whose oversized fruit-covered headdresses inspired many a drag queen. [cultura.rj.gov.br/museu-carmen-miranda](http://cultura.rj.gov.br/museu-carmen-miranda)

### Culture

Visitors will find urban charm in São Paulo, with its contrasting wealthy and impoverished neighbourhoods operating within walking distance of each other. Every May, it hosts a massive gay pride parade with millions of spectators lining Avenida Paulista. Salvador, in the northeastern state of Bahia, is a hotspot for Afro-Brazilian culture. Statues of Yemanjá, mother of *orishas* (divine spirits) in the Yoruba religion, are everywhere — a nod to the area's past. A visit to Pelourinho is a highlight for many, its cobblestone streets lined with colourful buildings stretching to stunning vistas.

### Family

For LGBTQ+ family travellers with kids, no trip to Brazil is complete without visiting Iguazú Falls, a series of waterfalls in the country's south where it edges against Argentina and Paraguay. Several times larger than their North American counterpart, legend says Eleanor Roosevelt exclaimed, "Poor Niagara!" upon seeing them.

**HOW TO DO IT:** Out Adventures offers Brazil trips, taking in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo or the Amazon. Contact them for specific dates and pricing. [outadventures.com](http://outadventures.com)

Right: Celebrations at an LGBTQ+ parade in Brazil  
Previous pages: Ipanema Beach with Leblon Beach beyond, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil







## MEXICO

Visitors to Mexico should start in its glorious capital, filled with museums and cultural venues like Palacio de Bellas Artes, with its Beaux Arts facade and art deco interior, or the fascinating National Anthropology Museum. Once the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan, the city is centred around the massive Zócalo, a square where Spanish buildings were constructed over ancient temples and pyramids.

### Nightlife

Only in Zona Rosa — literally the Pink Zone — can travellers find such a dense concentration of LGBTQ+ nightlife. Near the Angel of Independence monument along Avenida de la Reforma, bars, nightclubs, restaurants and other venues popular with LGBTQ+ tourists and locals abound, along with some of the city's best hotels.

### Culture

The Frida Kahlo Museum is located in the bohemian Colonia del Carmen neighbourhood. Known as the Casa Azul, this tribute to the bisexual artist has been open to the public since the late 1950s. [museofridakahlo.org.mx](http://museofridakahlo.org.mx)

### Outdoor

Mexico's coastlines offer a wide array of beaches to explore. Cancun and the Riviera Maya on the Yucatán peninsula are among its jewels and the source of much of the country's income from tourism. Storied Puerto Vallarta, one of Latin America's most popular LGBTQ+ beach destinations, overlooks the Pacific.

**HOW TO DO IT:** Olivia Travel, aimed primarily at lesbian, trans and bisexual women, offers a six-day cruise to see the whales of Magdalena Bay, stopping in San Carlos, Bahía Almejas and Boca de Soledad. Prices start at \$6,299 (£4,939) and includes accommodation, transfers from Loreto Airport, excursions, meals, entrance fees and more. [olivia.com](http://olivia.com)

## PERU

Peru is geographically diverse, with beaches, mountains and the western stretches of the Amazon jungle, making it a must-visit spot for nature-seeking travellers.

### Nightlife

Peru's capital, Lima, is a gastronomic paradise, with native cuisine like ceviche, a raw fish and citrus dish, and drinks such as the pisco sour a popular choice. The country's large and influential Japanese population has also impacted the culture and the cuisine. The main LGBTQ+ area is garden-like district Miraflores, the name of which means 'look at the flowers'. Sadly, two prominent gay nightlife spots, Lola Bar and Discoteca Legendaris, have recently closed; luckily, a number of new joints are in the works. However, ValeTodo Downtown, a bar central to the strong gay residential presence here, remains open and thriving. Instagram: [@valetododowntown](https://www.instagram.com/valetododowntown)

### Outdoor

One of the reasons many visitors come to Peru is to trace the country's ancient Incan roots. Two of the world's most coveted bucket-list destinations are in Peru: the ancient Andean temple complex Machu Picchu with its stunning views, and Cusco, which was a capital of the Incan Empire. Visitors will come across colonial buildings representing the Spanish conquest built on top of ancient temples, the periods of architecture instantly recognisable via differing stonework. A rickety train traverses a stunning mountain pass to connect Cusco and Machu Picchu, allowing for day trips. More adventurous travellers can hike the various Inca Trails over several days, finding lesser-known historic ruins along the way.

**HOW TO DO IT:** Zoom Adventures offers a week-long tour of Lima, Cusco and Machu Picchu including accommodation at five-star hotels, all breakfasts and transfers, from \$6,499 (£5,075) per person. [zoomvacations.com](http://zoomvacations.com)

## CHILE

While certain parts of Latin America might be known for a degree of brashness, travellers will find a more reserved destination when they visit Chile. Santiago, the capital, stretches along the city's main thoroughfare, Avenida Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins, and sits either side of the Mapocho River.

### Nightlife

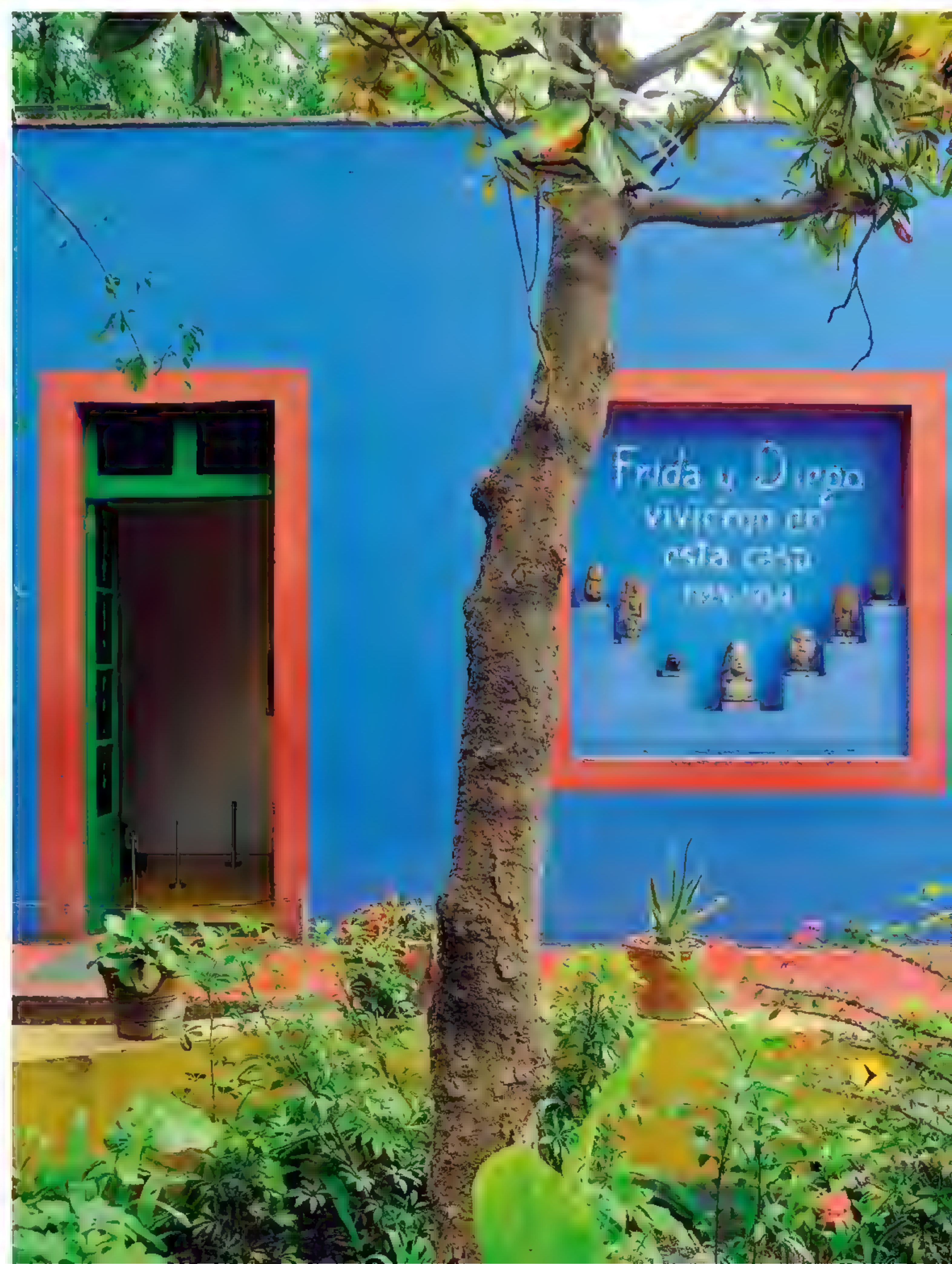
The gay heart of Santiago is in the quaint district Barrio Bellavista, much of which dates to the 1920s. Chile is a former Spanish colony, and these influences can be seen in much of the area's architecture, from the terracotta shingles to the white stucco walls. At night, the district comes alive with music and partying, as locals and visitors head to clubs, restaurants and bars, many with live music. The neighbourhood is dominated by San Cristóbal Hill and its statue of the Virgin Mary, a symbol of the city, connected by a not-always-functioning funicular.

### Culture

Argentina's Mendoza on the other side of the Andes might be South America's better known wine region, but Chile has one of the continent's largest. What makes it even more ideal for visitors to the capital is that there's no need to fly to a second destination. The wine region surrounds Santiago, most of it within an hour-and-a-half drive by car or organised tour to Casablanca Valley, the Maipo region or the Central Valley, where wineries like Concha y Toro create magical elixirs from Carménère, Cabernet Sauvignon and other grapes. [conchaytoro.com](http://conchaytoro.com)

**HOW TO DO IT:** HE Travel offers a 10-day Patagonia tour of Chile taking in Puente Arenas, Magdalena Island, Torres Del Paine National Park, the Pingo Valley and Puerto Natales, from \$8,298 (£6,483) per person (shared room option) including all breakfasts, six lunches and six dinners. [hetravel.com](http://hetravel.com)





Reveller at the Mexico City Pride parade  
Clockwise from top: the Inca Trail, the  
Inca ruins on the Inca Trail, the Frida  
Kahlo Museum in Mexico City





## ANNUAL LGTBQ+ EVENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

### São Paulo Gay Pride

BRAZIL — JUNE

Every year, travellers in the know head to São Paulo for what is truly the largest gay pride in the world, with millions of attendees. It's a full-force extravaganza, the one time this usually business-oriented city rivals Rio de Janeiro on the celebratory circuit. The parade's main route travels the city's most important thoroughfare, Avenida Paulista, lined with iconic skyscrapers, art nouveau mansions, museums and other cultural institutions. Usually in June, it's a whole week of events with the accompanying Feira Cultural Da Diversidade LGTB+ featuring art shows, drag contests, restaurant outings and other highlights. [paradasp.org.br](http://paradasp.org.br)

### Rio de Janeiro Carnival

BRAZIL — FEB/MAR

There's no experience quite like Rio's Carnival. Millions turn out for the event, in February or March depending on the Easter calendar — with the weekend and the Monday and Tuesday before the Christian holiday Ash Wednesday and Lent the most bacchanalian days. The event is centred around the Sambadrome, the linear stadium designed by Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer, with some tourist packages giving visitors a chance to march in costume. The majority of places are queer-friendly, with the main highlights being the Gay Ball at the Scala club and the Rua Farne de Amoedo gay beach block party in Ipanema. [riocarnaval.org](http://riocarnaval.org)

### Queer Tango Festival Buenos Aires

ARGENTINA — VARIOUS

The tango, a fusion of African, European, New World and Indigenous dance styles, was inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2009. It has roots within Argentina's same-sex history, as men often performed the dance with each other — even if only to impress women watching. After the early 2000s peso crisis, which plunged the country into financial turmoil, LGBTQ+ tango salons began to emerge. Visitors can either join in or sit back and enjoy this quintessential Buenos Aires art form through a queer lens. Instagram: [@queertangofestival](https://www.instagram.com/queertangofestival)

### Vendimia para Todxs (Vendimia for All)

ARGENTINA — FEB/MAR

With juice-stained, ballgown-wearing beauty queens representing Argentina's wine regions on parade floats throwing grapes, melons, bottles of wine and other agricultural products into the throngs lining Mendoza's streets, the Vendimia is already an unusual and vibrant wine festival. The Gay Vendimia or Vendimia for All only adds to the crazy fun, with a beauty queen pageant of gay, trans and drag contestants along with other entertainment. Definitely the world's largest, if not only, queer wine festival, the event is held in February or March, timed for the country's annual grape harvest.

### The Vallarta Pride Parade and Vallarta Pride Festival

MEXICO — MAY

Puerto Vallarta is a queer-friendly destination year-round, but this vibrant city overlooking the Pacific really comes alive in late May during the Vallarta Pride Parade and Vallarta Pride Festival. The highlight is the Saturday Parade along the beachfront Malecón, where thousands of people turn up to celebrate the community. Other highlights throughout the week-long gathering include art shows, special dining events, bar parties and more. It's a popular (albeit more crowded) time to visit this city, which was once the secluded haunt of Hollywood stars like Elizabeth Taylor. [vallartapride.org](http://vallartapride.org)





Vallarta Pride, Mexico City  
 (from left) Drummers at  
 Vallarta Pride Parade  
 attendee, São Paulo, the  
 21st gay pride parade on  
 Avenida Paulista, São Paulo

### Amor Film Festival

CHILE – JUNE/JULY

Travellers seeking a quiet and cerebral experience can do no better than heading to Santiago, Chile, for the Amor International LGBTQ+ Film Festival, which was founded in 2016 and is held from late June to early July. Though an international festival, there's a strong focus on queer Latin American and Iberian submissions in Spanish and Portuguese. The scattered screening and event locations – which range from the Cineteca Nacional to the Teatro Municipal de Maipo and the Comunidad Cultural Comunitaria La Inclusive – offer the chance to catch new films and engage in cinematic conversations while exploring the Chilean capital. [amorfestival.com](http://amorfestival.com)

### Havana, Cuba Gay Pride March and Festival

CUBA – MAY

Cuba has long been a queer-friendly destination. Through the organisation Cenesex, run by Mariela Castro, daughter of former leader Raul Castro, the communist country has also been an intriguing part of the global LGBTQ+ rights movement, and is especially advanced on transgender issues. Queer rights activists have to toe the party line, and this colourful late May spectacle in the storied streets of Havana is usually a government-supported event, generally promoting an approved narrative. Peaceful protests can sometimes occur, making this a rare, interesting time to see Cuban politics in action.

### Carnaval Gay de Barranquilla

COLOMBIA – EASTER

Barranquilla, a lesser-frequented spot for LGBTQ+ travellers, is best known for its lively festival. The city, which sits on Colombia's Caribbean coast, is home to one of South America's largest events – the Barranquilla Carnaval. It features several LGBTQ+ events alongside the core parades, meaning this multifaceted extravaganza is unlikely to remain a secret for too much longer. Like many carnivals, its timing is based on the Easter calendar. The glittering week of events includes marches, cultural outings, parties, drag pageants, and other feather-adorned spectacles where the music is always turned up high.

### San Juan Gay Pride

PUERTO RICO – JUNE

Puerto Rico has been through a difficult few years, from natural disasters to economic slowdowns, but San Juan Pride continues. This early June event is one of the Caribbean's largest, with bars, restaurants and nightclubs along Avenida Condado in the Condado neighbourhood's LGBTQ+ district packed with locals and visitors alike. The parade kicks off early from its staging grounds in Parque del Indio in view of the beachfront before heading along Ashford Avenue with a line-up of participants, floats, music and dancers. It culminates with a rally and show of activists, singers, drag artists and other performances at Parque del Tercer Milenio. [pridepuertorico.com](http://pridepuertorico.com)

### Diversity March/Manuel Antonio Gay Beach Parade

COSTA RICA – JUNE/JULY

Visitors who time their trips right and stay long enough during a June visit to Costa Rica get two incredible LGBTQ+ pride events. It's a chance to see art shows, film exhibits and have plenty of fun. In late June, Costa Rica's capital San José hosts the Diversity March, a colourful spectacle combining fun and activism, with myriad sophisticated cultural events worthy of this Central American capital. Two weeks later and only a two-hour drive away is the Manuel Antonio Gay Beach Parade in Manuel Antonio National Park, on the beach itself. The weekend is full of pool parties, tea dances and other events. 🌈







# A CUT ABOVE



BUENOS AIRES IS A MAGNET FOR STEAK ENTHUSIASTS. FROM THE CITY'S HIGH-END GRILLS TO ITS DINING HALLS, STEAK HOUSES AND BARBECUE PITS, HERE ARE THE BEST PLACES TO SAMPLE THE FINEST ARGENTINE BEEF.  
WORDS: SORREL MOSELEY-WILLIAMS





**V**ast, flat pampas fan out to the north, west and south of Argentina's capital, Buenos Aires. These are the pastures on which world-class Hereford, Brangus and Aberdeen Angus cattle have long been raised. Argentina is one of the world's steak hotspots, with grass-fed beef and all its trimmings taking centre stage at dining tables and backyard barbecues around the country; indeed, each Argentine devoured an average of 116.6lbs of meat in 2023.

Buenos Aires (the province as well as the city) is the epicentre of this carnivorous culture. A love for open-fire cooking and a tradition of outdoor dining means preparing an *asado* (barbecue) at home is a perennially popular weekend pursuit, while there are hundreds of *parrillas* (steak houses) to work your way through. These range from humble, family-run joints to five-star hotel restaurants grilling up the full Monty of *choripán* sausage sandwiches, sweetbreads, short ribs, *entraña* (skirt steak), ribeye and flank. Just remember to order a juicy bottle of Argentinian Malbec to pair with your bovine banquet.

#### NEW-SCHOOL INNOVATION

##### La Carnicería

When chef Pedro Peña and his business partner Germán Sitz conceived La Carnicería, the central idea was to open an unabashedly meat-driven *parrilla*. Not surprising, seeing that Sitz — who comes from a family of Jewish immigrant cattle farmers — was born and raised in La Pampa province (fondly known as La Carni) and sources grass-raised beef exclusively

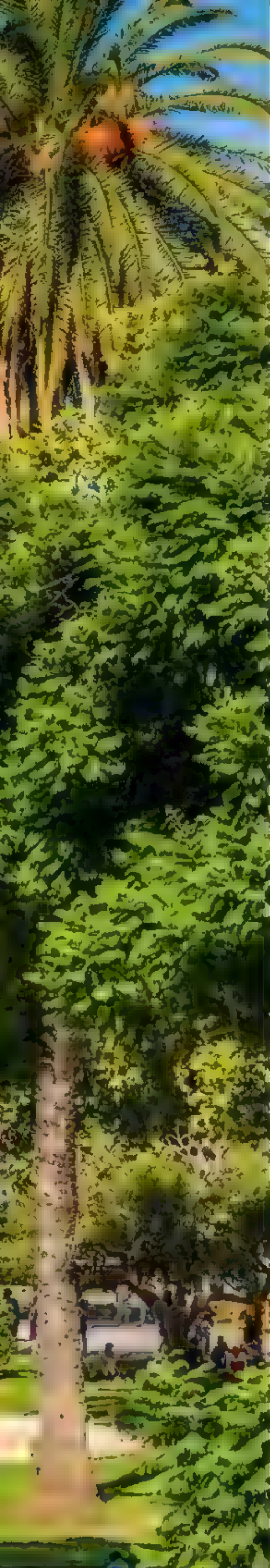
from his family estate Los Abuelos. Step into the establishment, located in the vibrant Palermo Soho neighbourhood, and you're met with live fire cooking fuelled by red *quebracho* logs, and a rather graphic blown-up photo of beef carcasses hanging up in an abattoir. It's a tight squeeze in this hugely popular spot; the best place to sit is at the buzzing kitchen counter to soak up the ambience by getting close to the fiery action and see the steak first grilled then sliced up right in front of you.

One of Colombian chef Peña's signature dishes is a massive smoked and grilled portion of *bife de chorizo*. This Argentinian steak cut is similar to a New York strip and is served on the bone alongside wooden platters with creamy pumpkin puree and seasonal greens.

Many star ingredients are prepared in-house, such as the chorizo — served as part of a delightful brunch dish that includes peas, a fried egg and new potatoes (a preferred hangover meal) — and a *morcilla* that stands a good chance of converting anyone with an aversion to offal, thanks to the addition of apple, white beans and *huacatay* (Peruvian black mint), which give the humble blood sausage a new lease of life. Besides steak, the menu usually includes a number of pork, lamb and boar dishes, depending on the season.

La Carnicería opened in 2015 and gets a mention in Michelin's guide for Argentina, which debuted in 2023. In March, the duo behind the restaurant opened a second *parrilla*, José El Carnicero (their eighth restaurant), "to give La Carni a little competition", says Sitz. [lacarniceria.com.ar](http://lacarniceria.com.ar)





## AWARD-WINNING Parrilla Don Julio

Pablo Rivero was just 20 when he threw what little savings he had, along with some financial backing from his grandmother and father, into a steakhouse. Parrilla Don Julio opened in Palermo, then a down-at-heel Buenos Aires neighbourhood, shortly before Argentina was plunged into economic turmoil in 2001. It's a testament to the clarity of his vision and the unerring quality of the food that, today, the steakhouse regularly features on best-of lists. Indeed, it was crowned Best Restaurant in Latin America in 2020's World's 50 Best Restaurants listing. Palermo, meanwhile, has become one of the trendiest barrios to dine in.

The mission has always been to celebrate Argentine traditions and culture. Rivero says: "My grandfather was a butcher and livestock producer, my father followed in his footsteps and I was the son who needed to forge a future. We joined forces, bringing our ambitions and experiences to the table, to ensure that I could have a *parrilla* using the beef we raised." His mother, Graciela, managed the till for many years, dad Enrique still sources products from around Argentina and his eldest son, Facundo, works as a waiter during university breaks.

Besides serving fantastic, grass-fed skirt steak and *bife de chorizo*, executive chef Guido Tassi and his team create seasonal menus; in summer, expect a rainbow array of heirloom tomatoes, while asparagus makes an appearance in spring. Sommelier Rivero, meanwhile, presides over some of Argentina's most legendary and oldest wine cellars. [parrilladonjulio.com](http://parrilladonjulio.com)

## NO FRILLS Los Talas del Entrerriano

Few things stir Argentinean emotions quite as much as meat being cooked over a fire-pit. Sprawling Los Talas del Entrerriano, located in the unassuming town of José León Suárez, is a low-key and authentic *campo* (countryside) establishment predicated on this concept. A 30-minute drive from the capital, this cavernous restaurant is beloved by locals and regularly gathers 450 diners under its roof at any one time.

Los Talas is the epitome of no-frills dining. You have to arrive early to bag a wooden table — just after midday is ideal. You should also go hungry, and be sure to order the *vacío* (flank steak) and the *lechón* (roast pork) with chips. The enormous size of the iron grills, the dozens of cross spits (one of Argentina's oldest and most traditional cooking methods) slowly roasting racks of ribs and whole pork, and the towering wall of logs hint at what's to come.

Be prepared to bib up before picking up the huge on-the-bone cuts from the metal platter and devouring. While chunky deep-fried beef empanadas and a token lettuce-and-tomato salad are available as well, this is also one of the best places to be schooled in *achuras* (offal). Instagram: [@eltalaok](https://www.instagram.com/eltalaok)

Clockwise from left: Plaza de May, Casa Rosada; Germán Sitz of La Carnicería; the loaded grill at La Carnicería; a modern take on chinchulines (beef small intestine) served at La Carnicería. Previous spread, from left: outdoor seating at Sacro; set table with steak and sides at Parrilla Don Julio



## TRADITION WITH A TWIST

**El Pobre Luis**

Porteños (residents of Buenos Aires) usually head to the buzzing Chinatown sub-district to shop for otherwise hard-to-find Asian fruits and vegetables and dine at one of the many Japanese and Chinese restaurants. One of the unexpected gems in this corner of Belgrano is the El Pobre Luis steakhouse. Back in 1986, Uruguay-born cook Luis Acuña and his wife María Battista opened a rotisserie selling spit-roasted chickens and suckling pigs to serve as the centrepieces of wedding banquets; six years later, they opened their first restaurant.

Despite Acuña applying his know-how mainly to beef, the star dish quickly became the classic Uruguayan *pamplona*, a mouth-watering and hearty concoction of either chicken breast, pork or fillet steak stuffed with mozzarella, bacon and peppers then wrapped *a la tela* (covered in a layer of caul fat).

This singular dish is what makes El Pobre Luis stand out from traditional Argentine grills; other favourites include delicately grilled liver and kidney, also *a la tela*, Uruguayan specialities not frequently seen on Buenos Aires menus. And, while many porteño *parrillas* use charcoal to create the heat, only native *quebracho* and *espinillo* woods are used here.

When Acuña passed away in 2013, his son Liber, along with his siblings, took over the reins. They continue to pay tribute to their father's cooking as well as his love for sports — Uruguayan football memorabilia, from jerseys to signed photos deck the walls and ceiling. The pace is fast and friendly and it's a great spot for meals with the whole family, especially football-mad kids. Today, Argentine grill master Pedro Alcides Sosa leads the kitchen, searing steaks to perfection. [parrillaelpobreluis.com.ar](http://parrillaelpobreluis.com.ar)

## SOPHISTICATED DESIGN

**Nuestro Secreto**

Award-winning architecture and a secret garden make for a distinctive dining experience in the up-market Recoleta neighbourhood. Diners sit inside a glass atrium at this restaurant within the Four Seasons Hotel Buenos Aires, which is home to fire pits for spit-roasting whole sides of meat, a clay oven for baking empanadas and open-flame grills.

Patricia Ramos, one of the few women chefs heading up a *parrilla* in a male-dominated industry and the only woman to run a five-star restaurant in Buenos Aires, is deeply passionate about the work that goes into authentic Argentine barbecue. "I love to prepare *asado*, preparing the entire rack of ribs in brine before hanging it on the cross spit and cooking over a slow *quebracho*-log-burning fire for four or five hours," she says. "It's a slow process but it's always worth the effort because of the resulting tenderness and smoky aromas."

Lunch or dinner here is a feast of sensory pleasures — not least carving through buttery ribeye with an enormous, specially designed steak knife as smoke billows around the elegant glass pavilion, whose roof and walls unfold to create a captivating outdoor dining experience. Sunday lunchtime is one of the best times to go, when the city's well-heeled denizens enjoy *asado* with all the trimmings. Don't forget to slather on Ramos's chimichurri sauce, served with every steak. [fourseasons.com/buenosaires](http://fourseasons.com/buenosaires)

Below, clockwise from left: Patricia Ramos plating braised lamb, barley and fennel risotto with grilled onions and tzatziki; mushroom dish and signature cocktail at Donnet; empanada carbon, served at Sacro  
Opposite: The exterior of Nuestro Secreto







## BEYOND STEAK

While Buenos Aires is rightly recognised as a hotspot for steak, it's also booming with vegetarian and vegan options

### DONNET

Opened in 2016 by chef Manuela Donnet, the restaurant is the only one in Buenos Aires specialising in fungi. The open kitchen serves up a seasonal menu using fresh, sustainably produced ingredients, ferments and preserves. Order the oven-roasted, lemony oyster mushrooms, garnished with black bean paste, sauerkraut and sweet and spicy rice. [donnet.meitre.com](https://donnet.meitre.com)

### LADO V

With a neon-drenched, vibrant-pink aesthetic, Lado V is a pioneering Buenos Aires restaurant serving plant-based street food. When you're able to tear yourself away from the ball pit, try the pickled vegetable-stuffed tofu with hoisin sauce, mushroom tacos, or one of the many vegan pizzas and burgers. Instagram: [@ladov.bsas](https://www.instagram.com/ladov.bsas)

### MARTI

The large rectangular bar surrounding the open kitchen takes centre stage at this vegetarian restaurant run by acclaimed chef Germán Martitegui. The atmosphere is informal, with large

windows and understated decor. Popular dishes include celeriac and mushroom shawarma wrapped in kale, and ricotta and mushroom gnocchi. Weekend brunch is accompanied by a DJ spinning relaxing tunes. Instagram: [@marti\\_barra](https://www.instagram.com/marti_barra)

### SACRO

Within its minimalist aesthetic, contemporary furniture and lush vegetation, Sacro was one of the first restaurants to make vegan food cool in Buenos Aires. Try the activated charcoal empanadas stuffed with mushrooms, harissa and dried olives, and kimchi dumplings with ginger and coriander foam. The bar also takes a vegan approach to cocktails. [sacro.com.ar](https://sacro.com.ar)

### TITA LA VEDETTE

The all-women team at this takeaway in Chacarita roll out silky handmade vegan pasta, such as heart-shaped ravioli and colourful fettuccine. Fillings include kimchi, sweet potato, roasted peanuts and vegan ricotta. Sit-down dining is available at a sister outlet that opened last October in the Paternal neighbourhood. Instagram: [@titalavedette](https://www.instagram.com/titalavedette)




# GOING



IMAGE: ILMIMAGES





# SOUTH

Chile's Puerto Williams, the world's southernmost city, is a gateway to Tierra del Fuego's mountain trails. Indigenous Yahgan communities and a new scientific research station — but its real allure lies in its isolation. Words: Shafik Meghji





**T**racing the shoreline of the icy Ukika River, I follow a trail through an evergreen woodland of southern beech trees studded with clumps of orange fungi the shape and size of golfballs. The branches are miniature ecosystems, blanketed with tiny bryophytes (a group of plants that includes mosses, liverworts and hornworts) and tangled with a straggly lichen known as old man's beard, which ripples as I pass. Sinuous roots and fallen trunks crisscross the path, while an ominous creaking rings out as the canopy shakes in the ferocious wind. There's no one else around, but the pneumatic tapping of a Magellanic woodpecker periodically sounds above the din, its striking crimson head hidden from view.

Eventually, I emerge from Parque Municipal Ukika and watch as the river cuts across a stony beach and pours into the gunboat-grey Beagle Channel, which winds through Tierra del Fuego, linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. On my right is the hamlet of Villa Ukika, home to the small Indigenous Yahgan community; to my left lie the outskirts of Puerto Williams, the southernmost city on Earth.

Below Patagonia, the tip of South America fragments into an archipelago of islands, islets, headlands and peninsulas riven by snaking waterways and draped with bottle-green forests and glistening glaciers. This is Tierra del Fuego ('Land of Fire'). According to the oral traditions of the Indigenous Selk'nam people, the topography was created by a young man named Táyin who 'grabbed stones, and with his sling[shot] hurled them in all directions. Where the stones landed there appeared large cracks in the ground which filled up with water'.

Tierra del Fuego's poetic name was inspired by the bonfires of the Selk'nam, which were spotted by Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan in 1520 as he attempted to complete the first circumnavigation of the globe. Half a millennium on, the sparsely populated region, which is shared by Argentina and Chile, remains a wilderness. That said, increasing numbers of tourists are heading to the Argentine port of Ushuaia, once a penal colony known as the 'Siberia of the South' and now the largest city in Tierra del Fuego, mainly to embark on Antarctic cruises.

But few of these travellers continue south across the Beagle Channel (named after the ship that carried a young Charles Darwin on his momentous voyage around South America) to Chile's Navarino Island, home to Puerto

Williams. The 2,800-person settlement, which had its status upgraded from a town to a city by the Chilean government in 2019, lies 1,500 miles from the capital, Santiago, yet a mere 670 miles from Antarctica.

Puerto Williams is only accessible by plane or boat, and its isolation is a big part of its draw. On my first visit, before the pandemic, I took the long route, catching a bus from the Chilean Patagonian port of Punta Arenas, crossing the stormy Strait of Magellan by ferry to Isla Grande in Tierra del Fuego, then continuing south into the Argentine section of the region and finishing 12 hours later in Ushuaia. The next day, I travelled by boat across the Beagle Channel, skirting raucous colonies of sea lions slumped across a chain of rocky islets, to reach the Chilean border post of Puerto Navarino, where I boarded a minibus for the final stretch along the coast to Puerto Williams.

This time, I opt for the quickest option: a 30-minute flight from Punta Arenas that provides spectacular views of the snow-bound Alberto de Agostini National Park. This area captured the imagination of Darwin, who wrote in *The Voyage of the Beagle* about pods of spouting whales, tempestuous weather and a landscape of 'magnificent glaciers extend[ing] from the mountain side to the water's edge. It is scarcely possible to imagine anything more beautiful than the beryl-like blue of these glaciers'.

On the southern shore of the Beagle Channel, backed by the thickly forested slopes and snowy serrated peaks of the Dientes de Navarino range, Puerto Williams is officially the capital of Chile's Antarctic Province, but it retains the look and feel of a small town. Founded as a naval base in the 1950s, in an area long inhabited by Yahgan communities, it has a neighbourhood of spick-and-span whitewashed houses for military personnel and their families (who make up roughly half of the population), as well as a sprawl of mismatched civilian homes kitted out with large satellite dishes, stacks of firewood and, often, a shaggy dog.

In a burst of late-afternoon sunshine, I wander along the quiet, windswept streets, passing timber-walled churches, clusters of municipal buildings, a small school, some simple shops and restaurants (most of them closed) and a handful of guesthouses. Cows and horses roam freely, grazing on daisy-speckled lawns, and front doors are left unlocked, crime being a distant prospect in these parts. Pausing on a wooden boardwalk overlooking the Beagle Channel, I gaze out at a storm petrel whirling above a pair of fishing boats returning with a catch of supersized king crab.

After sampling the delicious crustaceans for dinner at a restaurant decked out with nautical knick-knacks, I chat with Anna Baldinger, who

Clockwise from top:  
The world's southernmost train, Tren del Fin del Mundo, making its way through Tierra del Fuego; rugged coastline of the Beagle Channel, Chile; sculpture of a Selk'nam hunter by Richard Yasic Israel, Porvenir, Chile  
Previous pages: Boats in the Beagle Channel, Chile

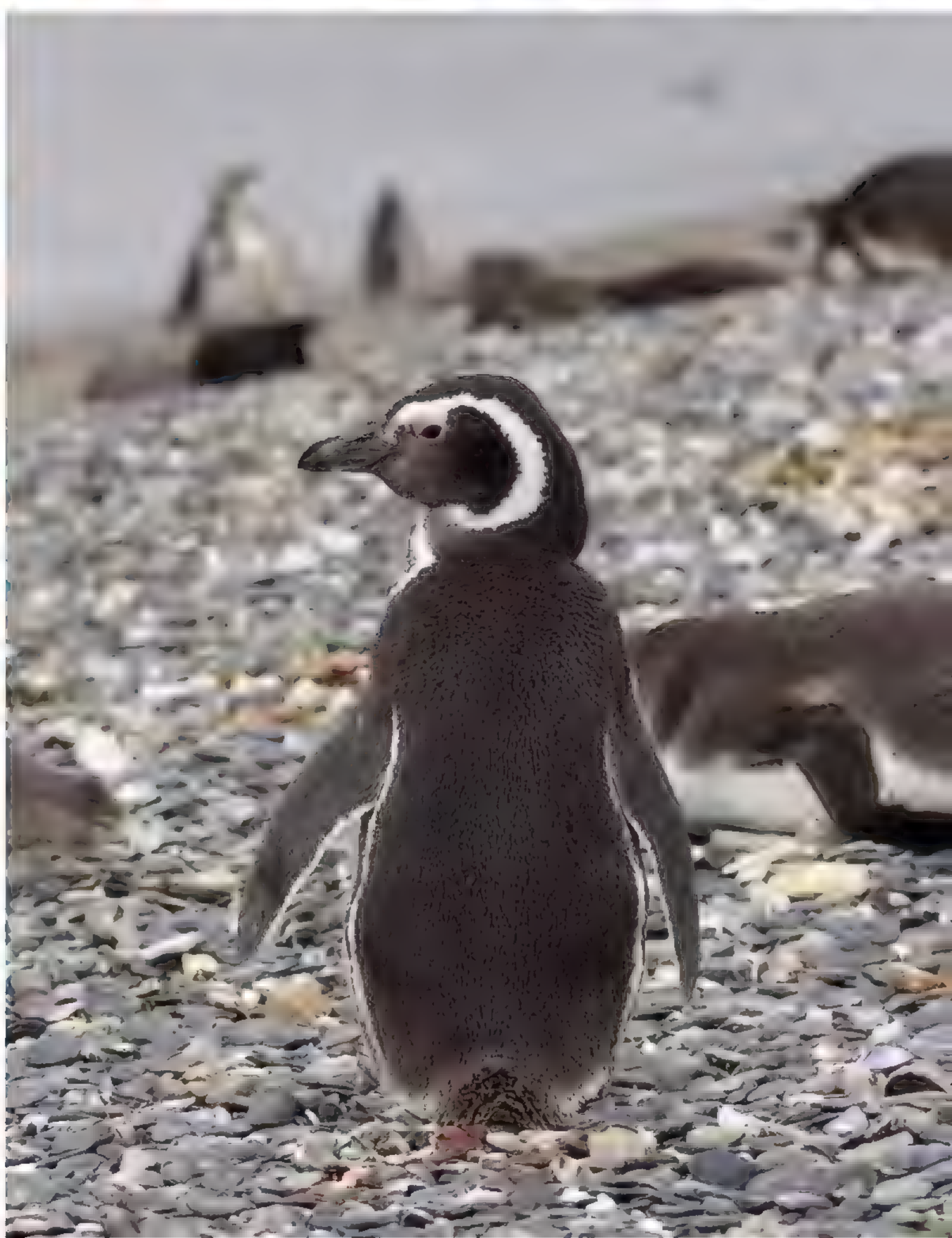








Lighthouse on island in the Beagle Channel.  
 From top: Cormorants  
 flocking on island in  
 Beagle Channel, Ushuaia;  
 Magellanic penguin on  
 Isla Martillo, Tierra del  
 Fuego, Argentina.





## TIERRA DEL FUEGO HOTSPOTS

### Porvenir

In northern Tierra del Fuego, the quiet Chilean town of Porvenir — accessible by ferry or plane from Punta Arenas — is the gateway to Reserva Natural Pingüino Rey, the continent's only king penguin colony. Further afield are the little-visited Parque Natural Karukinka and Parque Nacional Yendegaia, which span pristine swathes of mountains, forests, steppes and fjords. [pinguinorey.com](http://pinguinorey.com)

### Ushuaia

The region's largest city, Ushuaia, in Argentina, offers wildlife-watching boat trips along the Beagle Channel, an evocative museum set in a former prison and some excellent restaurants, plus cruises to Antarctica. There are several ski resorts nearby, as well as Parque Nacional Tierra del Fuego, a haven for hikers and birdwatchers, and the Tren del Fin del Mundo, the southernmost railway on Earth. [trendelfindelmundo.com.ar](http://trendelfindelmundo.com.ar)

### Estancia Harberton

The oldest ranch in Tierra del Fuego, 50 miles east of Ushuaia, Estancia Harberton was founded by a British missionary family in the 1880s and is still owned by their descendents. Overlooking the Beagle Channel, it offers atmospheric accommodation, insightful walking tours and museums dedicated, respectively, to the region's history and its birds and marine mammals. Tour operator Piratour also runs trips to a penguin colony on the island of Yekapasela, which is part of the ranch. [estanciaharberton.com](http://estanciaharberton.com) [piratour.net](http://piratour.net)

works at Hotel Fio Fio, the guesthouse I'm staying at. She originally moved to Puerto Williams from her native Austria to teach, before falling in love with both a local resident and Tierra del Fuego in general. "Puerto Williams is like being in a bubble — people think of it as the village at the end of the world," she explains.

The city may only be 70 years old, but this region has been inhabited by Yahgan communities for millennia, as attested by the archaeological sites scattered across the surrounding countryside. Anthropologist Maurice Van de Maele, the owner of Hotel Fio Fio, tells me that Navarino is one of the top places in the world for archaeological density, estimating that there may be as many as 2,000 sites on the island. These include middens (prehistoric rubbish dumps) and circular depressions that once housed ancient shelters, scores of which I spot on the drive from Puerto Navarino.

Maurice is a former director of the local museum, formerly known as the Martin Gusinde Anthropological Museum. It was renamed the Museo Territorial Yagan Usi – Martín González Calderón to recognise the area's long-overlooked Indigenous heritage. Situated on the western edge of Puerto Williams, the eye-catching institution has a hulking, sun-bleached whale skeleton on its grounds. Inside, it provides a fascinating insight into Yahgan culture through items such as finely carved bone harpoons, exquisite jewellery and expertly constructed wooden canoes.

The museum also highlights the devastation wrought on the indigenous peoples during the colonisation of Tierra del Fuego in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a period that drew waves of missionaries, gold miners and sheep ranchers from Chile, Argentina and beyond.

This part of Tierra del Fuego can feel timeless, but change is coming. During my visit to Puerto Williams, I see only a dozen tourists, most of whom have come to hike, birdwatch, fish for wild trout or simply experience life at the '*fin del mundo*' ('end of the world'). But more are on their way: Antarctic cruise ships now call in more regularly, bringing hundreds of passengers in matching jackets, and a modern, multipurpose dock capable of serving larger vessels is being built. A large new hotel is also under construction and Puerto Williams's tiny airport is being upgraded, including plans for a new passenger terminal.

The latter is one of a number of ongoing infrastructure projects in Tierra del Fuego. The tarmac on the country's southernmost road, the

Y-905, ends just east of Puerto Williams near Villa Ukika and is replaced by gravel for the final 13 miles to Caleta Eugenia, a lonely ranch owned by the Chilean navy. But there's talk of extending the route to Puerto Toro, the world's southernmost permanently inhabited settlement, currently only reachable by boat. A state-of-the-art scientific research hub, the Cape Horn Sub-Antarctic Centre, has also recently opened in the city. Perched on a hilltop east of the centre, this glass-and-concrete structure — complete with its own wind turbine — vaguely resembles a spaceship.

But as I hike west out of Puerto Williams, any nagging concerns about overdevelopment quickly melt away. There's no one else on the trail up to the 2,000ft-high peak of Cerro Bandera ('Flag Hill'), a switchbacking route that rises steeply through a beech forest and represents the first leg of the Dientes de Navarino circuit, an epic 33-mile trek. Gradually the trees thin out — the trunks increasingly stunted and bowed over, as if paying their respects — before disappearing completely at the top, replaced by a stark sub-polar tundra.

Here, I find a Chilean flag straining at its pole like a puppy on a lead. The stony terrain is dotted with slow-growing cushion plants and snooker-table-green hummocks, and veined with ribbons of snow. With the white-flecked Beagle Channel to the north, the Dientes de Navarino piercing the sky to the south and no other hikers in sight, it is a gloriously secluded place featuring near-constant wind and a plunging temperature.

Remembering that this is just a false summit, I slip on another base layer and head on, following a route along a series of cairns for another 40 minutes until I reach an exposed ridge offering 360-degree views that somehow manage to surpass their forerunners, taking in a glacial lake ringed by a crown of snowy peaks. My hands are numb from the cold and the abrasive sleet provides an unwanted facial, but I can't help smiling as I recall my conversation with Anna the previous day.

"When you reach the top of Cerro Bandera, there's no one else in front of you," she had said. "And the rest of the world feels a long way away."

**HOW TO DO IT:** Aerovías DAP operates flights between Punta Arenas and Puerto Williams, with flights taking a little over an hour. Audley Travel offers a 16-day tour of Argentina and Chile, stopping in Ushuaia and Tierra del Fuego, from £12,100 per person including flights, in-destination transfers, accommodation, activities and excursions. [dapairline.com](http://dapairline.com) [audleytravel.com](http://audleytravel.com) □



# CALL OF THE WILD

Deep in the Costa Rican rainforests, where howler monkeys and pumas roam, conservationists are working alongside travellers on new citizen science projects, introducing hi-tech processes to safeguard biodiversity. Words: Steph Dyson







I never thought I'd find myself playing grandmother's footsteps with a puma. After a morning fruitlessly searching the trails surrounding SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge for big cats, we've returned to the lodge where head guide Mario Chavarria Fuentes has dropped a bombshell — a male puma was just seen outside guest villa number seven.

"It could still be here," he reassures me, gesturing towards the rainforest surrounding the open lawns of the guest cabins. Walking back to mine — a puma-deficient number 11 — it's difficult to shake off the feeling that if I turn around, I'll come face-to-face with one of the world's most elusive felines. It's both exhilarating and terrifying in equal measure.

It's hard not to feel like you're being watched when you're in Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula, whether by a puma or some other creature. The place is home to the world's highest concentration of flora and fauna and some 2.5% of the world's biodiversity — all in an area roughly the size of the Isle of Man. For unclear reasons, it continues to hover beneath many visitors' radars, despite acting as a stronghold for half of Costa Rica's animal and plant species, including one of the last tracts of untouched tropical lowland rainforest.

The wildlife seems keen to be observed, too. Just outside my bedroom, a band of raccoon-like coatimundi mill around a palm, occasionally tumbling to the ground like drunk gymnasts, while high above, there's a swallow-tailed kite, its white wings catching in the sun as it circles. A family of jaguars live nearby, while a bunch of Baird's tapirs regularly ramble around the staff football pitch. Recently, a guide encountered an incredibly rare harpy eagle. Over a single night, a trail camera has captured videos of an ocelot, a puma and a jaguar passing through the lodge's 188 acres of primary rainforest. It sounds like the start of an improbable joke, but there's nothing laughable about the bewildering array of wildlife crammed into the lodge's private reserve and Corcovado National Park, just a little over a mile away.

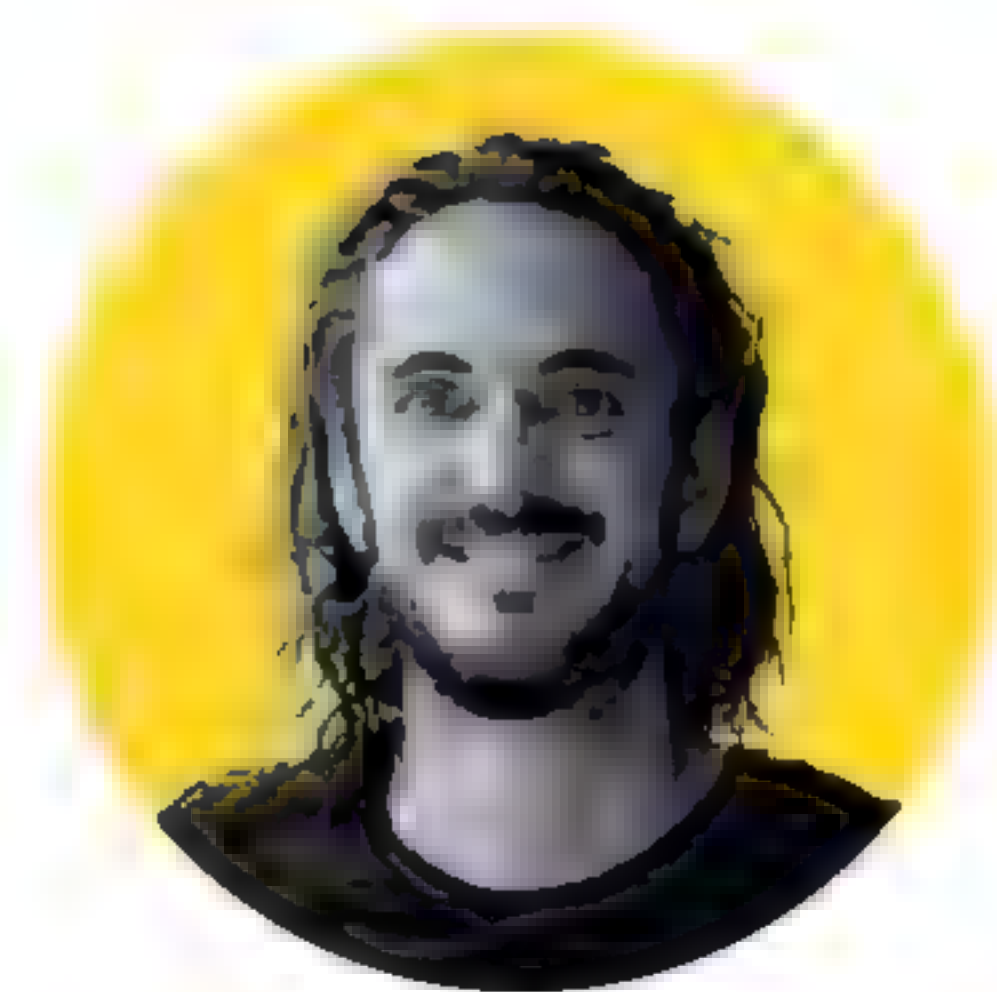
My guide has been obsessed with the jungle for decades. "Since I was 12, learning the calls of animals and searching for them has been my

hobby," Mario tells me, as we head back out onto the trails. After his daytime guiding duties are completed, and despite years working here, he still takes himself for an evening walk through the forest. His encyclopedic knowledge of every animal call, paw print and plant is an extension of this obsession cultivated as a child.

He tilts his head towards the rainforest canopy and makes four high-pitched chirrups. There's an immediate squealing chatter from somewhere nearby and he turns to me with a wink. Whistling again, he tells me to listen carefully. "After a while, you learn to work out how far away they are and how high," he explains, steering me along the path in hot pursuit of the noise. Soon, we spot the responders to our call. A troop of white-faced capuchin monkeys are balanced on narrow branches high above, squabbling shrilly among themselves. Beady black eyes peer out from a nun's wimple of golden fur, while their prehensile tails hitch onto branches to demonstrate Olympic-worthy gymnastics that put the bumbling coatimundi to shame.

The noises of this rainforest, known by scientists as ecosystem soundscapes, are increasingly becoming an important means of diagnosing their health. The research group Crowther Lab has recorded them across Costa Rica, showing how human-damaged ecosystems are quieter, as well as how conservation can help restore many to their natural, cacophonous states. Thanks to a new partnership with SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge, the group is soon to start analysing soil samples from the old-growth rainforests surrounding the lodge and the wider Osa Peninsula, extracting DNA to delve into this staggeringly biodiverse microbiome. The research will help scientists understand what a rainforest microbiome should look like — and how primary forests can be restored elsewhere around the globe.

Offshore, there's a similar story of epic biodiversity and the need to protect it. Corcovado Bay, a short boat journey north, is a whale motorway. Humpbacks migrate south through these waters during the northern hemisphere's summer and head in the opposite direction in winter, making for one of the longest whale-watching seasons on the planet.



**Tom Crowther, lead scientist and lab founder of Crowther Lab**

#### **WHY STUDY THE OSA PENINSULA?**

We study global biodiversity to better understand how we can restore ecosystems around the world. Little research has been done in an old-growth tropical forest. These are such rare ecosystems and ones we need to save. Until we understand these ancient ecosystems, steering restoration is challenging.

#### **WHAT WILL TRAVELLERS BE DOING IN THE NEW LAB AT SCP CORCOVADO WILDERNESS LODGE?**

This will be an unbelievable opportunity for citizen science research. This ecosystem is so diverse that categorising and understanding it would take decades for a small group of researchers. But when we've got a constant flow of interested guests, we can introduce them to the magic of this field of study.

It'll be explorative research, such as bioacoustics analysis. We'll have guests listening to the sounds of the forest, picking out the sounds of different mammals, invertebrates and birds to pair that data with machine learning, which can refine and identify the species. We'll also be researching environmental DNA by taking soil and DNA samples. These will provide an incredible tool for looking at the full diversity in those ecosystems.

In partnership with Innoceana, we're also hoping to explore what the soundscape of a healthy coral reef is like.

[crowtherlab.com](http://crowtherlab.com)





Wild puma with cub in Corcovado National Park, Osa  
Above, from left: a squirrel cuckoo rests on a branch in the Corcovado National Park; sunset on the Osa Peninsula  
Previous pages: A lone hiker following a wide trail through Corcovado National Park







QUICK FACTS

Monkeys

The Osa Peninsula is a habitat for all four of Costa Rica’s monkey species: the white-faced capuchin, golden-mantled howler monkey, Geoffroy’s spider monkey and the Central American squirrel monkey. Thanks to thriving communities of these species, it’s possible to see all four in one day.

Big cats

Corcovado National Park supports a larger population of big cats than practically anywhere else in Costa Rica, making it a prime destination to spot jaguars, pumas, margays and ocelots. That said, your chances remain slim; although visitors to SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge have a unique advantage in that both a female puma with cubs and a couple of male pumas are spotted on their grounds on a near-daily basis.

Parrots

With scarlet macaw populations also the largest in the country, pairs of these birds, their red plumage bright in the sky, are frequent sights. Expect to hear them before you see them; their throaty squawks are both distinctive and deafening.

Out on a speedboat, it doesn’t take long for us to strike lucky: a curious mother and her calf swim towards our boat before melting away beneath the surface. Ahead, a pod of pan-tropical dolphins race through the water at breakneck speed.

Our destination is Isla del Caño, an island and biological reserve whose waters teem with life.

Armed with a snorkel, I join the underwater party, watching as bicolour parrotfish dressed to impress in electric blue and phosphorescent purple dance past. Up next, a school of silvery almaco jacks with David Bowie-like streaks across their left eye spiral towards me, offering an invitation to join their choreographed routine. Further down, a hawksbill turtle is unmoved by the revelry, paddling languorously as it plucks at sea sponges clinging to the coral that lines the ocean floor.

Despite this abundance of marine life, an estimated 60% of the coral around the island has been bleached this year by an abnormally strong El Niño, which raised both the ocean’s temperature and acidity. This triggers the coral to expel the vital microalgae living within its tissue, thus turning large swathes white. Local NGO Innoceana is trying to find ways to reverse this process through pioneering 3D coral reef mapping. This enables the organisation to analyse how this fragile marine ecosystem is responding to climate change in the hopes of identifying ‘super corals’ that are resistant to temperature increases. Once discovered, these corals will be propagated locally to regenerate the reef, while the research itself will act as a blueprint for identifying super corals around the world.

Through a new research lab also being built at SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge in partnership with Crowther Lab, Innoceana will also soon be contributing to groundbreaking research around cetacean communication — and hotel guests will be able to help. Using hydrophones, whale songs will be recorded and then fed into an AI algorithm to try and unpick a seemingly impossible conundrum — what exactly are they singing?

Back on land, I take the trail to the San Pedrillo entrance of Corcovado National Park. Crossing into this protected area is mostly symbolic — after all, humans care far more for borders than other animals. Mud underfoot give a tantalising insight

into the vast array of creatures who have passed through here, while flashes of shimmering blue signal morpho butterflies ahead.

If I’d thought puma or the deadly fer-de-lance viper were the animals to fear, my guide, Juan Corella Camacho, quickly sets me straight. Herds of white-lipped peccary are uncommon, but still possible to see here — and his trademark, puppy-like curiosity doesn’t extend to wanting a tete-a-tete with a group of them. “If we see some, jump up into a tree and hang on,” he says. “They can be aggressive when threatened, but their pungent, sweaty stench gives you a good clue to their imminent arrival.”

Our trail takes us to a small clearing, where Juan stops me to effuse over an inga tree, whose serpentine buttress roots provide anchorage in high winds. I’m distracted, however, by a pungent, musky smell that infuses the air and sours the throat. Juan assures me it’s just humidity, but, after our safety briefing, I’m feeling a little jittery.

It turns out that white-lipped peccary aren’t the only creatures with a malodorous calling card. Some 65ft above is what appears to be a termite nest locked onto a horizontal branch. Suddenly, it moves, shifting rusty brown fur into a sunbeam. “Mono congos,” Juan whispers, the local name for golden-mantled howler monkeys; further above, more russet lumps yawn lazily. Their current peacefulness belies their self-appointed roles as jungle town criers — you can set your watch to their croaked, thundering shouts, with competing troops vociferously announcing their locations to the entire forest at dusk and dawn.

They’re a key part of the Osa Peninsula’s unique soundscape — something science is doing its best to protect. I might have narrowly missed seeing a puma, but as I join the howlers in contemplative silence, my ears filled with the hum of the jungle’s endlessly rehearsed, yet still unpolished symphony, the moment feels exhilarating enough.

**HOW TO DO IT:** Two-person rainforest villas start from \$1,800 (£1,425) for two nights all-inclusive at SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge, with speedboat transfer included. The Osa Peninsula can be reached by 1hr domestic flight from the capital, San José. Citizen science activities can be booked via the hotel for an additional cost. [scphotel.com/corcovado](https://scphotel.com/corcovado)

Clockwise from top: Sunset on the Osa Peninsula; a squirrel monkey up in the trees of the Corcovado National Park; a traveller crossing a stream in Corcovado National Park

IMAGES: GETTY









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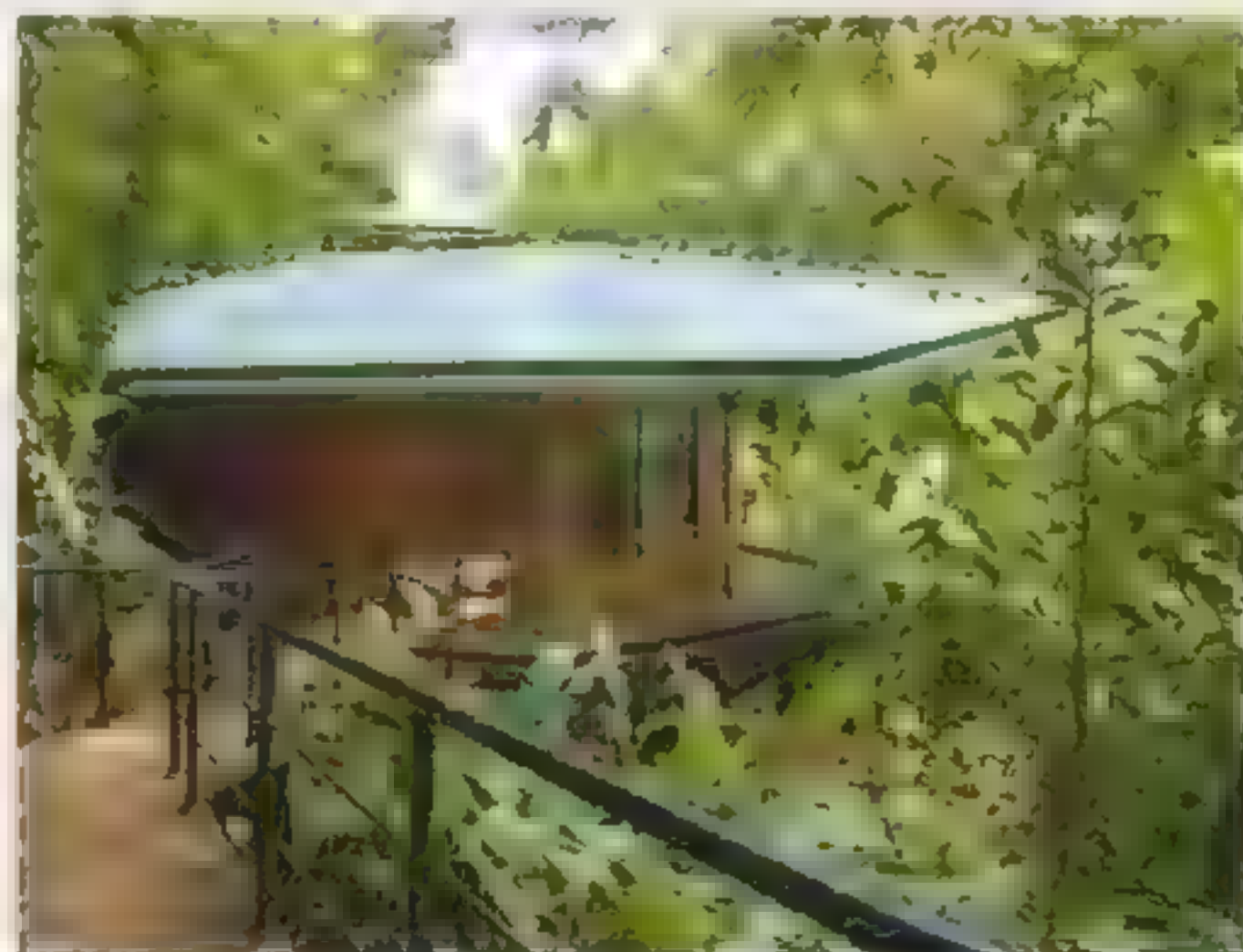
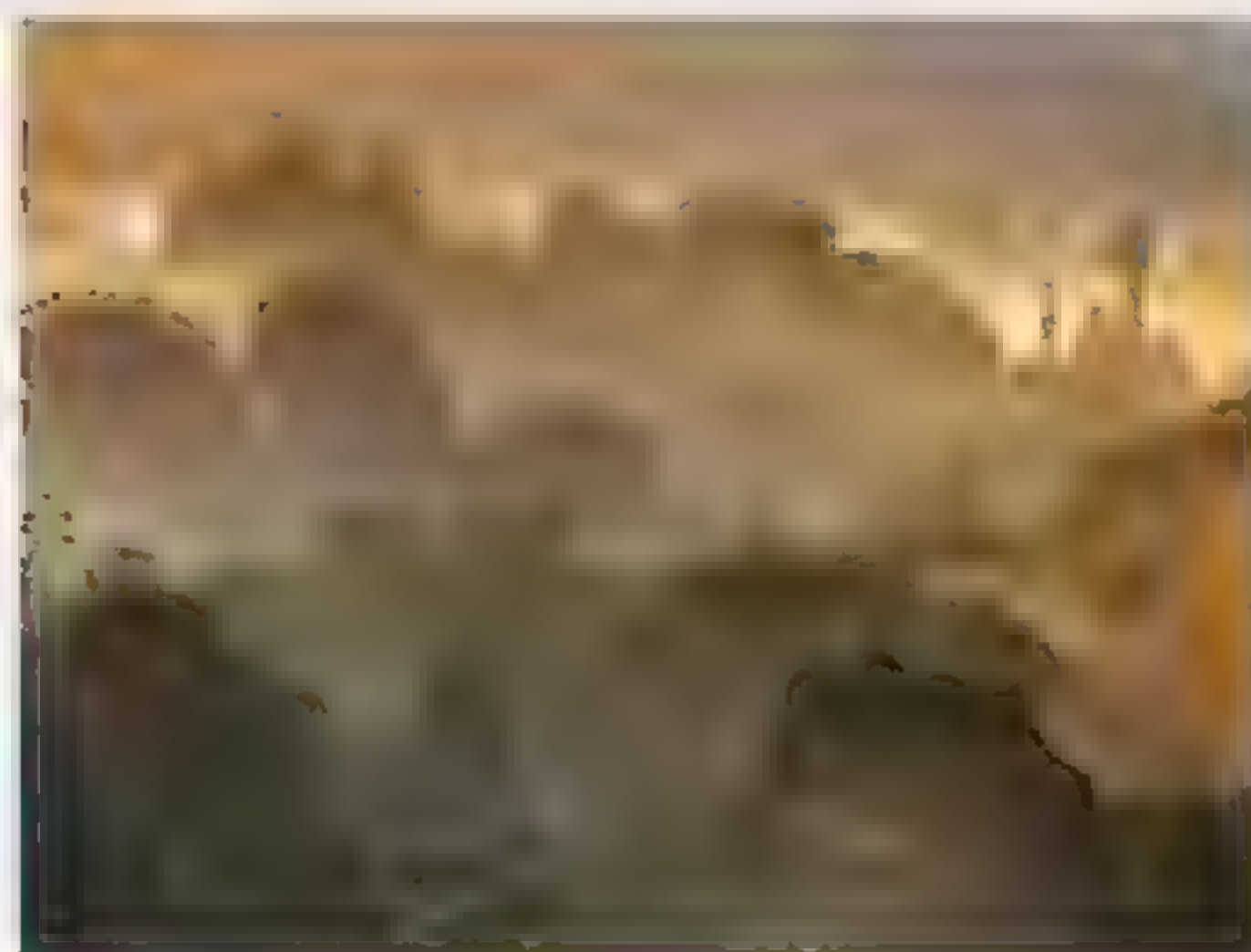
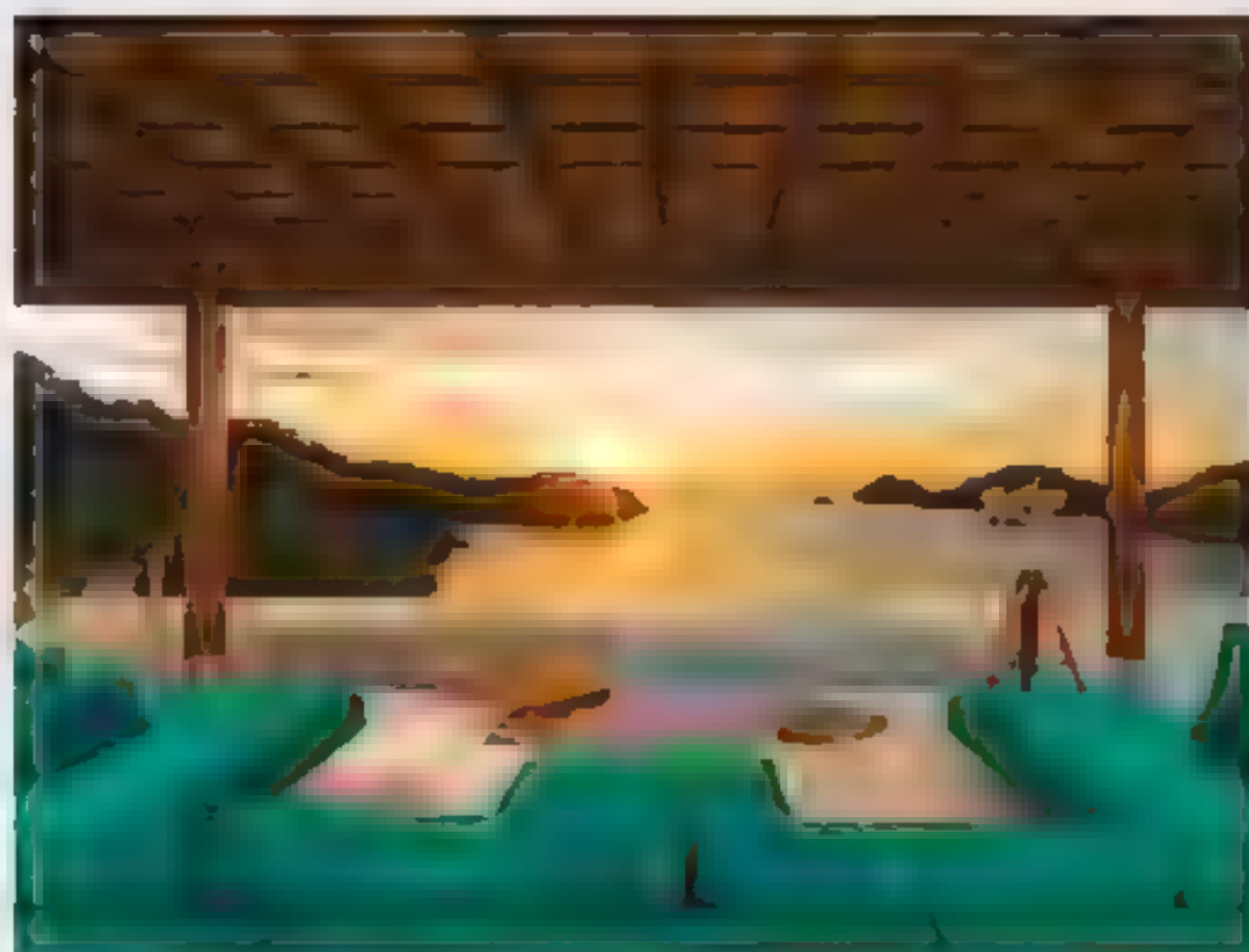
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# Vajra Sol Yoga Retreats

## CHILE, ARGENTINA & PERU

Vajra Sol Yoga Retreats offers unparalleled experiences of self-discovery and rejuvenation in the awe-inspiring landscapes of Patagonia on the Chile-Argentina border, and also amid the mystical allure of Peru. For over 15 years, Vajra Sol has been hosting intimate yoga retreats with a focus on providing cultural experiences in breathtaking natural settings. Each retreat blends the tranquillity of yoga and meditation with unique adventures, the exploration of sacred sites and immersive encounters with local traditions.

The Patagonia yoga retreat promises a fusion of rugged wilderness and serene introspection. On this week-long retreat, participants embark on a transformative journey amid the peaks of the Andes. Hiking trails meander through Magellanic deciduous forests and along an arid steppe, offering opportunities for both physical challenge and connection with the environment. The retreat features a trek to the base of majestic granite peaks and an interpretive boat tour to a glacier. Days conclude with ample time to relax in the comforts of a deluxe mountain lodge.

In Peru, the eight-day retreat delves into the rich cultural tapestry of Cusco and the Sacred Valley, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites renowned for their historical significance and spiritual resonance. Against the backdrop of the Andean Highlands, participants immerse themselves in the elaborate wisdom of the Incas, exploring archeological sites and temples that echo with the whispers of centuries past. Machu Picchu stands as the crowning jewel of the journey, a testament to the ingenuity and spirituality of an ancient civilisation. Daily yoga sessions create a deep bond with the mystique of Peru.

At the heart of Vajra Sol's philosophy is the belief that yoga is for everyone, regardless of experience or ability. Practices are accessible for all levels, from novice to advanced. Each individual is encouraged to explore their practice at their own pace, fostering a sense of inclusivity and empowerment. Through the shared experience of travel, exploration and yoga, bonds are formed between guests, creating a supportive community of like-minded travellers on the path to self-discovery.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- All-inclusive curated retreats
- Unique deluxe mountain lodges
- Small groups

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Yoga, meditation and breathwork
- Private tours of glaciers and wildlife
- Hiking in the Andes
- Visits to Inca archeological sites
- Local artisan markets
- Spa treatments

#### GET IN TOUCH

[vajrasoltravel.com](http://vajrasoltravel.com)

T: +506 8514 2932

E: [info@vajrasoltravel.com](mailto:info@vajrasoltravel.com)

**DON'T MISS** Each yoga retreat features creative local cuisine, showcasing the vibrant cultures of the area and cultivating holistic appreciation





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# Carmelo Mountain Lodge

## MENDOZA, ARGENTINA

Located in the heart of Argentina's renowned wine region, just a 30-minute flight from Santiago and a 90-minute flight from Buenos Aires, the city of Mendoza is a western gem. The splendour of nature intertwines with vibrant culture in Mendoza, where tree-lined squares, avenues bordered by poplars and charming architecture create a perfect backdrop for exploration.

For adventurers, ascending the heights of Mount Aconcagua — the highest peak in the Western Hemisphere at 6,960m — is a thrilling challenge, but admiring the grandeur of South America from the summit is worth it. Travellers can also immerse themselves in the lush beauty of the Uco Valley, a wine paradise that dazzles with its sprawling vineyards and mountainous landscapes. Mendoza is the land of Malbec, and a stroll through its wineries is an unparalleled sensory journey. From family-owned estates to globally renowned establishments, each visit is an opportunity to explore the secrets of winemaking and taste the unique flavours that emerge from the Mendoza vineyards. The fusion of tradition and

technology makes each winery a unique haven for connoisseurs and the curious.

Beyond wine, discover the allure of nature, connect with the land and savour the essence of existence with activities such as horse-riding, yoga among vineyards, hiking and rafting. The city also hosts annual festivals and events, from the National Grape Harvest Festival to tango shows under the stars. Mendoza's cultural diversity is reflected in its various activities, from concerts to craft fairs, providing visitors with a rich and varied experience.

Nestled in the imposing Andes Mountains in Mendoza, at Carmelo Mountain Lodge, travellers are welcomed warmly to a world of exclusivity, where the tranquil air and serene surroundings are perfect for unwinding. The meticulously designed lodge — which features a bar, restaurant, lounge and pool table — invites visitors to rest and relax, admire nature, experience the culture of Argentina and enjoy an unforgettable experience. Indulge in the epitome of luxury at Carmelo Mountain Lodge, with its refined lodge (including common areas and a pool) and four spacious private suites.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Luxury accommodation
- Natural surroundings
- Mountain views
- Near Mount Aconcagua

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Horse-riding
- Hiking
- Wine-tasting

### GET IN TOUCH

[carmelolodge.com](http://carmelolodge.com)

T: +54 9 261 702 5001

E: [carmelolodge@gmail.com](mailto:carmelolodge@gmail.com)

**DON'T MISS** Only 30 minutes from Carmelo Mountain Lodge, Cordón del Plata Provincial Park is ideal for hiking and reconnecting with nature





# Estancia La Bandada

## SAN MIGUEL DEL MONTE, ARGENTINA

Enjoy the green and calming surroundings of the Argentinean countryside at Estancia La Bandada in San Miguel del Monte. Easy to get to, Estancia La Bandada is only 75 miles from Buenos Aires and 55 miles from the international airport. Travellers can enjoy the many delights of Buenos Aires — including eating Argentine asado, learning how traditional empanadas (meat pies) are made, walking, riding horses, admiring the skills of the horsemen in the drum races and drinking tea along with excellent pastries — before heading back to the peaceful countryside.

As soon as guests pass through the gate, they'll begin to appreciate the fresh country air along with the sounds of birdsong and leaves gently rustling in the breeze. Crossing the pastures, guests can watch flocks of ducks flying across the sky from pond to pond, before enjoying a warm welcomed by the team in the main house, which is framed by a centennial grove. Estancia La Bandada and its rooms are named in honour of the variety of birds in the area. The colonial-style house is simple and elegant, with ample pleasant

spaces that invite rest and relaxation. With only five rooms and a maximum of 14 guests, visitors will feel at home. On hot days, take a refreshing dip in the large swimming pool. Additionally, there are a number of other activities to enjoy, including massages, horse-riding, biking and learning about the Argentine game of polo. Days in the countryside end perfectly with a bonfire while enjoying the colourful sunsets that are characteristic of the area.

Estancia La Bandada is committed to the environment. A few feet from the house, there is a large orchard surrounded by fruit trees and beyond, a plantation of native Argentine species carefully selected to ensure biodiversity, good pollination and environmental health. Fresh eggs from happy hens, honey and goat's milk are also produced on-site. These organic and natural ingredients are delivered directly to the table at Estancia La Bandada. Be sure to visit the recently opened Alaverde restaurant, which serves authentic, country-style Argentine cuisine based on traditional recipes.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Two suites
- Two family rooms with a private living room
- One standard room
- Restaurant
- Organic vegetable garden and farm
- Outdoor swimming pool
- Small meetings and events facilities

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Horse-riding
- Farm tour
- Cooking classes
- Polo
- Birdwatching tours
- Biking
- Historic and cultural walking tour
- Massages

### GET IN TOUCH

[labandada.com.ar](http://labandada.com.ar)  
T: +54 9 2226 51 2771  
E: [info@labandada.com.ar](mailto:info@labandada.com.ar)

**DON'T MISS** Take a polo lesson with a professional instructor in one of the most popular regions for the sport in Argentina





# Patagonia Eco Domes

## SANTA CRUZ, ARGENTINA

Located just under 10 miles away from El Chaltén, the ‘hiking capital of Patagonia’ renowned for the iconic Monte Fitz Roy, the Patagonia Eco Domes promise a unique experience in nature. El Chaltén is globally famous among climbers, offering a variety of trails, granite alpine climbs and much more. Highlights include the views of Fitz Roy, Cerro Eléctrico, glaciers and its proximity to two iconic trails in Los Glaciares National Park — Laguna de los Tres and Piedra del Fraile.

Each of the nine exclusive domes offers all the privacy and relaxation that one would hope for in an outdoor destination such as El Chaltén. Guests might spot puma, south Andean deer and guanaco during their adventure. The sanctuary of a private dome offers a different understanding of the outdoor elements — guests can experience the might of the glaciers, stars, wind and rain from a comfortable king-sized bed, swaddled by high-quality linens. Each dome suite comes equipped with a wooden stove, safe box, comfortable beds and bedside tables with night lamps, and also has a private bathroom and hallway. They all have

self-sufficient solar energy on a 12v circuit, which means only USB and USB-C plugs are available.

Culinary delights play a significant role at the Patagonia Eco Domes, which provides the best of traditional Argentinean cuisine. Dishes feature innovative elements and are accompanied by vegetables and herbs grown on site. Lamb, trout and beef are some of the delicious favourites in Patagonia. Guests can enjoy authentic local dishes such as curanto and cross-roasted lamb.

The welcoming staff are always available to help with anything guests might need, making them feel at home throughout their experience. After a long hike, guests can relax with a variety of herbal teas and pastries alongside board games and books that are available in the living room, which features a welcoming fire and great views. Finally, guests mustn't miss Lago del Desierto, a beautiful lake that sits next to the Chilean border.

The Patagonia Eco Domes are easily accessible by car or taxi, which can be arranged prior to arrival from El Chaltén or El Calafate Airport, which is 150 miles away.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Nine geodesic domes
- Two community domes
- Powered by solar panels
- Gift shop
- Full board based
- Direct access to National Park trails

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Laguna de los Tres
- Piedra del Fraile
- Glaciar Piedras Blancas
- Glacier Creston hike
- Mirador del Polo
- Horse-riding
- Kayaking
- Rafting
- Via Ferrata climbing

### GET IN TOUCH

[patagoniaecodomes.com](https://patagoniaecodomes.com)

T: +549 2966 463386 (WhatsApp only)

E: [patagoniaecodomes@gmail.com](mailto:patagoniaecodomes@gmail.com)

**DON'T MISS** Guests can watch the sunrise from the comfort of their beds and see Monte Fitz Roy bathed in spectacular orange light





# Piattelli Wine Resort

## SALTA, ARGENTINA

Piattelli Wine Resort offers a dreamy escape for adults looking to relax in idyllic landscapes. Located in Cafayate, Salta, in the north west of Argentina, the resort sees some extraordinary sunsets.

There are 20 exclusive *casitas* (villas) ranging between deluxe, executive and presidential, each with a signature style combining modern and local touches. The goal is to pleasantly surprise every visitor with attention to detail. All *casitas* have two fireplaces, one in the living room and one on the terrace. The terraces offer a unique setting for sunbathing, reading a book, sharing a glass of wine or a romantic dinner under the stars.

Gastronomy and wine are at the heart of the resort's offering, with three sumptuous restaurants to choose from. The hotel's bar, Block 21, pays homage to the land and the roots of Piattelli Wine Resort, and is the perfect place to unwind before dinner. The team has developed signature wine cocktails that provide a unique experience.

Aura offers a fine-dining menu, elegant interiors, an open kitchen and a view of the peaks of the Calchaquí Valley. Patio 360 offers guests breakfast,

lunch and dinner with stunning views, thanks to its circular architecture and an open-air dining space. It serves as a meeting point within Piattelli Wine Resort, to create new friendships and share the day's anecdotes.

Corporate events are welcome — the resort as a meeting room and all the necessary facilities to help clients achieve their objectives.

Guests can relax and reconnect in the spa, with numerous treatments that can help improve the general wellbeing of both spirit and body. The spa manager will assist visitors in finding the perfect activities and treatments to suit their desires.

When guests confirm a reservation, the guest relations department will contact them as soon as possible to plan and assist them in their stay. Guests can book a bike ride, guided hikes through the vineyards, wine and chocolate tasting experiences, tango classes, yoga sessions or even an off-road adventure in a Can-Am ATV in the mountains.

Whether guests are looking for relaxation or prefer some adventure, they will surely find the perfect pastime for their Argentinian escape.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Resort in a winery
- Concierge service
- Heated swimming pool
- Spa & gym

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Winery visit and tasting
- Mountain 4WD adventure
- Trekking in the vineyards
- Horse-riding
- Biking
- Cooking classes
- Tango lessons

#### KEY TREATMENTS

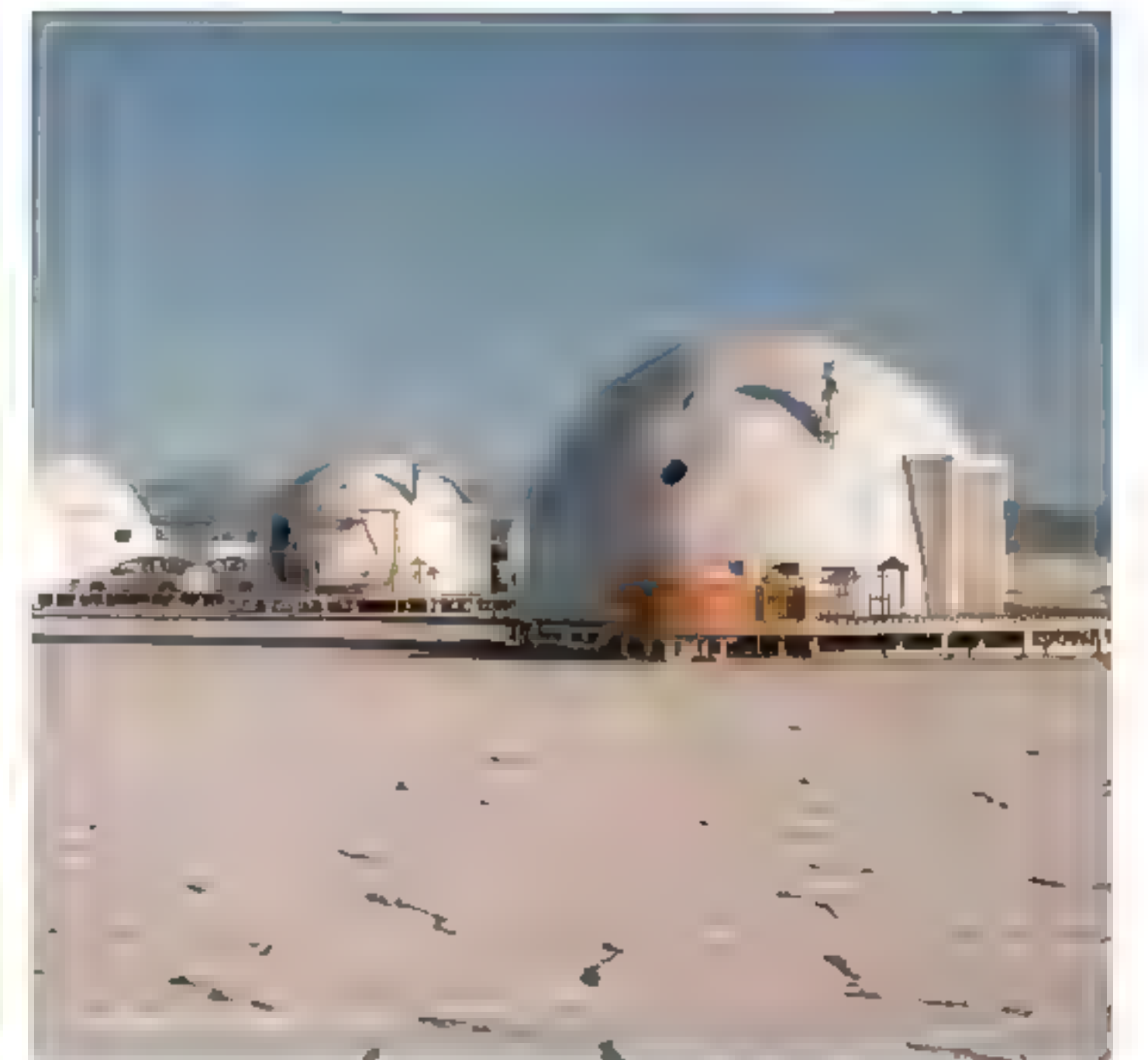
- Range of massages
- Fangotherapy
- Facials

### GET IN TOUCH

[piattelliwineresort.com](http://piattelliwineresort.com)  
T: +54 9 261 405 8333  
E: [reservas@piattelli.com.ar](mailto:reservas@piattelli.com.ar)

**DON'T MISS** Book a wine and dark chocolate pairing experience in the breathtaking tasting suite





# Pristine Luxury Camps

## ARGENTINA

Pristine Luxury Camps is a collection of high-end campsites across Argentina, where opulence and comfort are closely linked to low environmental impact. Set in some of the world's most unique and beautiful locations, the campsites are constructed to be self-sustainable, with solar energy, biodigesters, waste treatment, organic gardens and a commitment to regeneration. Pristine Luxury Camps keeps a close link with the native peoples and local communities, generating a source of employment and offering practical tourism and hospitality training.

Find Pristine Luxury Camps in three iconic places in Argentina — in a natural reserve on the shores of the Paraná River, just under 20 miles from the famous Iguazú Falls; in the middle of vast Salinas Grandes de Jujuy in the northernmost province; and in Patagonian Estancia in front of the stunning Perito Moreno Glacier, in the southernmost province of the country. Mouth-watering gourmet gastronomy is on offer at all the campsites, providing a taste of the signature cuisine and flavours of each region.

Pristine Iguazú has six villas immersed in the jungle on the banks of the Paraná River. From the swimming pool in the premium private villa, watch the sunset over the Paraná River. Visitors can also join an e-bike tour, navigating to hidden waterfalls and appreciating the sounds and the silence of the jungle — and, of course, pay a visit to one of the seven natural wonders, the Iguazú Falls.

Pristine Salinas Grandes offers a range of exclusive experiences in its six domes, including visiting the salt flat pools and viewing the stars in a natural observatory on new moon nights. Guests can also relax in a hot tub while watching a picture-perfect sunset or visit traditional towns and archaeological sites that are part of the Inca Trail.

Pristine El Calafate has six luxury domes with views of the imposing Perito Moreno Glacier. As well as visiting the glacier, experience a typical Patagonian ranch with a tour on foot or by mountain bike, or take a horse-ride guided by one of the most famous riders in Patagonia. At the end of the day, admire the sunset in a hot tub with an unforgettable view of the glacier.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Gourmet full board
- All-inclusive option
- Activities
- Transportation

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Horse-riding
- A guided tour to Iguazú Falls
- Visit salt pools
- E-bike tours
- Cooking lessons
- Painting classes
- Wine-tasting
- Mate tea ceremony
- Hot tubs and swimming pools

#### GET IN TOUCH

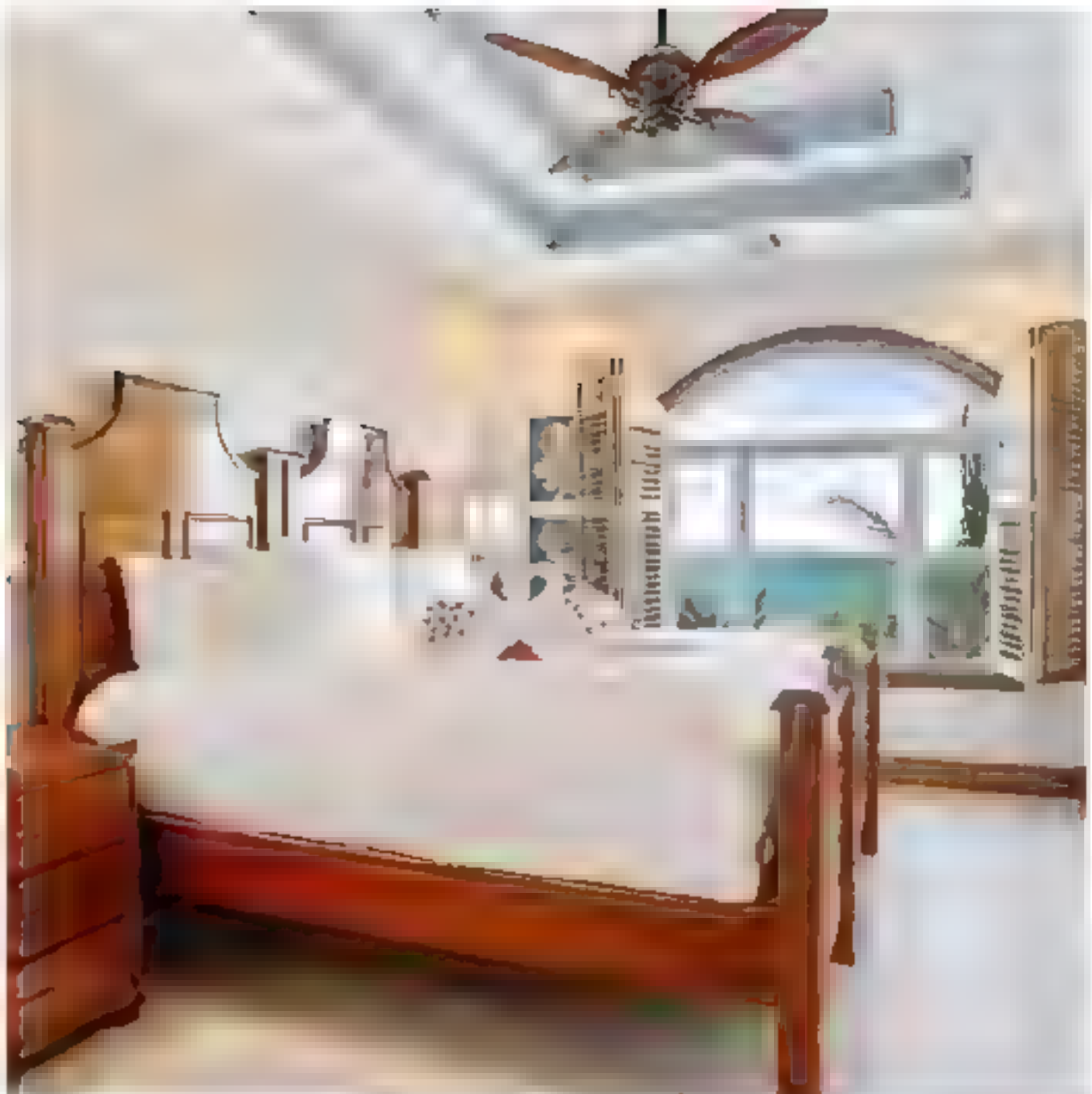
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**DON'T MISS** Experience the vast Salinas Grande, discover the incredible Iguazú Falls and visit the breathtaking Perito Moreno Glacier





# Grand Caribe Resort

## AMBERGRIS CAYE, BELIZE

Grand Caribe Belize is a tranquil resort surrounded by the beautiful nature of Ambergris Caye, the largest island of Belize. The island is known for its stunning beaches and vibrant marine life, offering an exciting playground for snorkellers, divers and beach enthusiasts. Belize Barrier Reef lies just a mile offshore — a testament to nature’s grandeur and a haven for underwater explorers.

This exclusive retreat offers apartment-style accommodation options that seamlessly blend luxury with comfort. Guests can unwind in spacious suites, each elegantly appointed with contemporary furnishings, fully equipped kitchens and private balconies providing breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea.

The resort’s culinary offerings include Rain Restaurant, and Aqua Seafood and Steakhouse. Rain provides the perfect setting to enjoy sunset cocktails or romantic dinners overlooking the sea, with a menu featuring a fusion of Belizean and international-style dishes. Aqua restaurant offers an intimate indoor dining space with a live sushi bar and stylish ambience. Aqua’s menu is a mix of

Asian and Japanese cuisine, featuring fresh sushi and succulent USDA prime steak.

Grand Caribe Belize is more than just a destination; it’s an immersive experience with many activities and facilities on offer. Guests are welcome to lounge by one of the six pools, enjoy a luxury spa treatment or participate in a more adventurous excursion. As well as snorkelling and diving, guests can join a fishing trip or explore the Mayan ruins inland. The resort’s concierge service works with guests to decide which activities are right for them, helping to curate a memorable trip. From arranging flights to booking excursions, they ensure holidays run smoothly.

There’s much to explore across the island of Ambergris Caye, all within easy access from the resort. Visiting San Pedro town is a must for those seeking a taste of local culture. This local hub offers a mix of shops, restaurants and galleries where guests can immerse themselves in Belizean life. The vibrant marine world of Hol Chan Marine Reserve is also worth a trip, where encounters with sharks and rays are common.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Six swimming pools
- Two hot tubs
- 800ft of beachfront
- Spa and salon
- Complimentary kayaks and paddleboards
- Two restaurants
- Swim-up pool bar

#### KEY TREATMENTS

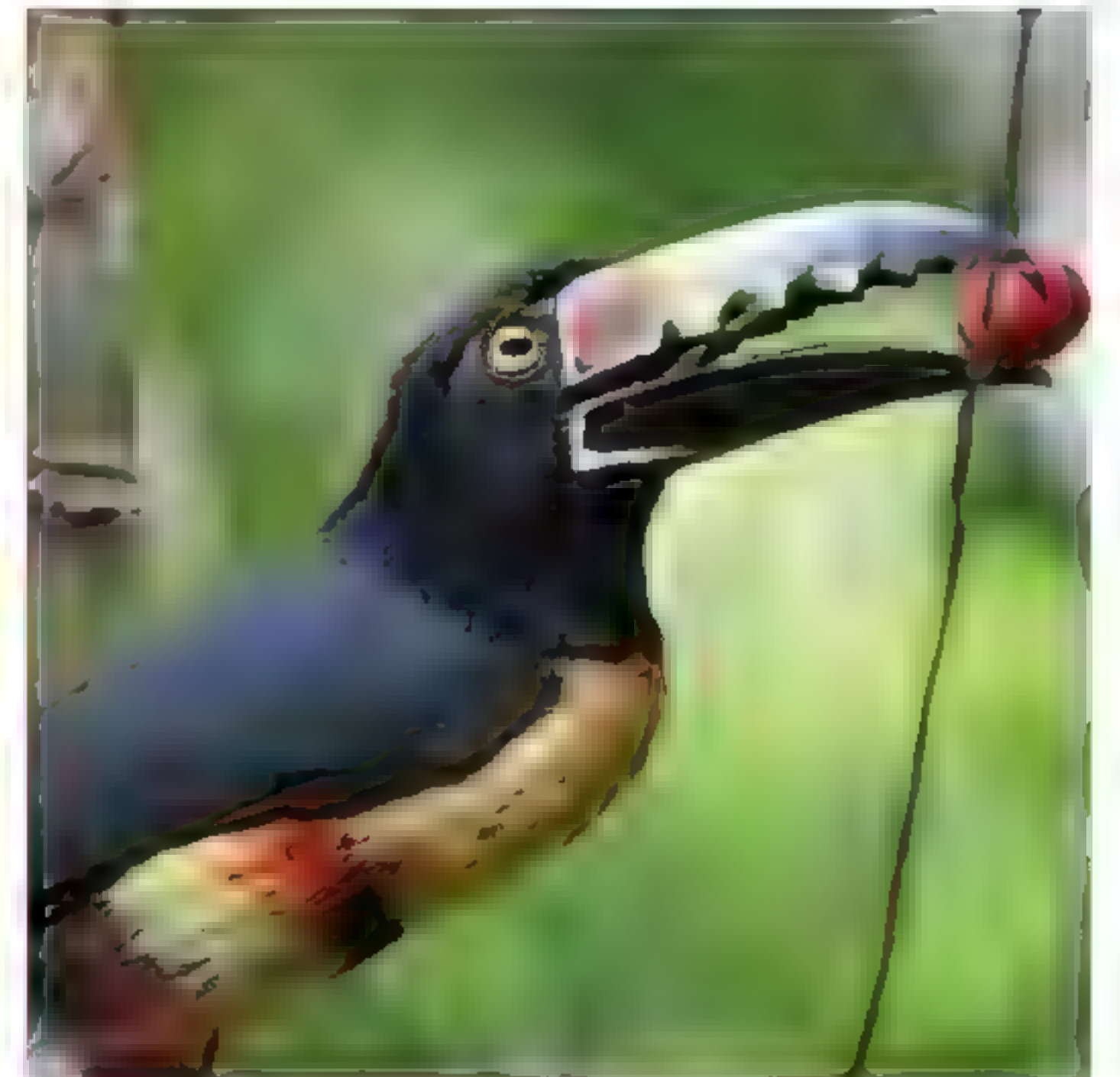
- Swedish massage
- Hot stone massage
- Hair treatments
- Manicures and pedicures

#### GET IN TOUCH

[grandcaribebelize.com](http://grandcaribebelize.com)  
T: +800 488 5903  
E: [reservations@grandcaribebelize.com](mailto:reservations@grandcaribebelize.com)

**DON'T MISS** Experience the magnificent Great Blue Hole from above on an exclusive private helicopter tour





# Table Rock Jungle Lodge

## SAN IGNACIO, BELIZE

Escape to the heart of Belize's lush rainforest at Table Rock Jungle Lodge, where sustainability meets boutique luxury. Tucked into the forest, only six miles from the town of San Ignacio, the lodge is an intimate jungle reserve and boutique hotel that's perfect for nature enthusiasts, adventurers and tranquillity seekers alike.

Table Rock Jungle Lodge has earned accolades for its commitment to sustainability and is proud to be recognised for its efforts in preserving over 175 acres of pristine rainforest, maintaining a working organic farm and boasting a mile of mesmerising river frontage. Because the lodge is completely energy self-sufficient, travellers can rest easy knowing that they're making a positive impact on the environment and local community.

Featuring only 10 cabanas, Table Rock provides an exclusive and immersive escape into nature. Each cabana is a private haven, seamlessly blending into the jungle surroundings.

Guests can explore the wonders of the lodge's expansive rainforest preserve, teeming with biodiversity, and immerse themselves in the sights

and sounds of the jungle while traversing Table Rock's well-maintained trails or lounging in the coolness of the saltwater infinity pool.

Partake in a culinary journey that starts at the organic farm and ends on the plates served in the open-air, thatch-roofed restaurant. Table Rock's farm-to-table dining experience showcases the freshest local ingredients, providing a taste of Belize's vibrant flavours in every bite.

Table Rock's private mile-long river frontage ensures guests can enjoy a serene escape. Whether canoeing along the river or unwinding on its banks, the soothing sounds of flowing water create the perfect backdrop for recreation and relaxation.

Adventures and cultural experiences abound in Belize. Located in the heart of the ancient Mayan civilization that once flourished in Central America, Table Rock is the ideal base camp for the most impressive sites in Mundo Maya. Birding, caving, archaeological expeditions, chocolate-making, tubing and zip-lining are all within easy reach of the lodge. Knowledgeable local guides make every experience personal, informative and fun.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 10 intimate guest cabanas
- Infinity pool
- One mile of riverfront
- Riverside yoga deck
- Restaurant and bar
- Farm-to-table dining

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Canoeing
- Birdwatching
- River tubing
- Mayan temple and cultural tours
- Caving, waterfall and horse-riding tours
- Farm walk and animal feeding
- Kids' play park
- Mahogany Reforestation Project
- Weddings and honeymoons

### GET IN TOUCH

[tablerockbelize.com](http://tablerockbelize.com)

T: +501 672 4040

E: [stay@tablerockbelize.com](mailto:stay@tablerockbelize.com)

**DON'T MISS** Plant a tree and be part of Table Rock's Mahogany Reforestation Project, an initiative to revitalise Belize's hardwood forests





# Tanager Rainforest Lodge

BELIZE

Tanager Rainforest Lodge is a birder’s paradise and choice lodging destination situated along the banks of the famous Rio Grande in the heart of southern Belize. Guests can stay at a thatched-roof cabana or hardwood lodge — some cabanas even overlook the river.

Visitors will enjoy waking up early for a hot cup of coffee and sitting outside on their private porches listening to the varied birdsong before heading out on a birding tour to spot some of the 350 or more bird species and other Central American wildlife that can be found in this area.

Other activities are also offered on site, such as tubing, horse-riding and hiking, so nature lovers can experience the rainforest from all angles.

Not only is the lodge itself a perfect destination for adventurers, but the local centre of Punta Gorda and surrounding areas offer travellers a full menu of activities and unique sites to see.

Many guests enjoy visiting the Maya city of Lubaantun just a few miles away to walk among the remains of an ancient civilisation dating from 700-900 CE. Others love experiencing the

rich culture of Belize by visiting the cocoa farms, producers of one of the region’s biggest exports. Chocolate-lovers from all over the world flock to the southern Toledo district for the Chocolate Festival of Belize in May.

Guests don’t have to roam far to experience the unique tropical cuisine of Belize, as there is a full-service on-site restaurant at the lodge, with some ingredients grown on the property’s farm. There is also a gym where fitness fanatics can stay on track even while on holiday.

The lodge is also a great location for honeymoons or an intimate destination wedding for couples who want to tie the knot amid the rainforest. Travellers and locals alike meet up at the lodge for special events, such as yoga and wellness retreats. It can also serve as a peaceful spot to set up a remote office, enjoying adventuring in Belize between emails.

Tanager Rainforest Lodge truly is a wonderful destination for nature-lovers who wish to connect to the beautiful rainforest and make the most out of a visit to Central America.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Restaurant and bar
- Gym
- Swimming pool
- Guest reference library
- Free wi-fi

### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Introduction to Maya culture
- Birding
- Chocolate-making
- Rainforest hikes
- Kayaking
- Paddleboarding
- Horse-riding

### GET IN TOUCH

[tanagerrainforestlodge.com](http://tanagerrainforestlodge.com)  
T: +501 722 0947  
E: [info@tanagerrainforestlodge.com](mailto:info@tanagerrainforestlodge.com)

**DON'T MISS** Set out on a boating excursion to see manatees and other sealife while taking in breathtaking views of the Belizean coastline





# The Lodge at Chaa Creek

## CAYO DISTRICT, BELIZE

Offering a choice of accommodation ranging from beautifully appointed, thatched-roof cottage rooms to elegant suites and villas, along with sophisticated amenities and a wealth of attractions and activities curated to engage a wide range of interests, it's no wonder The Lodge at Chaa Creek has become known as Belize's 'Destination within the Destination'.

With delicious farm-to-table meals served in your lodgings or under the huge palm-thatched roof and airy atmosphere of the Mariposa Restaurant, a large environmentally friendly infinity pool and a full-service spa recognised as Health and Wellness Provider of the Year for 2023 by the Belize Tourism Board, as well as other features not often found in the midst of such unspoiled nature, guests enjoy a very memorable Belize getaway in a stunning rainforest setting.

Outdoors, six full-time licensed naturalist guides turn canoeing, horse-riding and hiking through Chaa Creek's 400-acre private nature reserve into fun, richly rewarding educational experiences. Whether accompanied by guides or alone, hiking the miles of well-maintained, sign-posted jungle

trails crisscrossing the nature reserve or canoeing the tranquil Macal River into the town of San Ignacio present rare opportunities to become immersed in the wild beauty of unspoiled nature in ways that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

Of course, plenty of other exciting adventures are to be had across Belize. Just ask one of the experienced guides or at the concierge desk. Whatever experiences you choose, you can be assured that delicious meals and refreshments, spa treatments, swims in the pool or unwinding in your private verandah or hot tub await when you return.

Since its inception, Chaa Creek's founders set out to prove that environmental sustainability, cultural awareness and social responsibility can coexist with sumptuous comfort and impeccable service. Visitors sleep soundly knowing that 5% of their room rate goes directly into environmental and social programmes under the Chaa Creek Cares initiative. For example, guests' participation in the Pack-a-Pound programme has seen more than 30,000lbs of educational supplies donated to rural schools over the past decade.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 400-acre private nature reserve
- Mariposa Restaurant and Jungle Bar
- Hilltop Spa
- Infinity pool
- Elegant villas with private butler
- Conference centre

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Free guided tours such as birdwatching and the medicine trail plus a natural history centre, butterfly farm and non-guided canoeing
- Horse-riding
- Nature hikes
- Sunset canoeing
- Creatures of the night tour
- Rainforest all terrain tour

### GET IN TOUCH

[chaacreek.com](http://chaacreek.com)

T: +501 880 2237 (Belize)

+1-877-709-8708 (US)

E: [reservations@chaacreek.com](mailto:reservations@chaacreek.com)

**DON'T MISS** Return home with new cooking skills and recipes courtesy of the cooking classes at the Open-Hearth traditional bush kitchen





# Amazon Ecopark Lodge

MANAUS, BRAZIL

Located amid the lush Amazon rainforest, Amazon Ecopark Lodge is a tranquil retreat for travellers seeking a unique experience in the region. Situated on the banks of the Rio Negro, this jungle hotel offers a complete immersion in biodiversity and Amazonian culture, providing a memorable and enriching stay.

With architecture integrated into the natural environment, Amazon Ecopark Lodge offers guests an opportunity to experience jungle life with comfort and security. The bungalows are located under the trees, ensuring an authentic experience, enabling visitors to feel part of the surrounding environment while enjoying modern amenities.

One of the standout features of the Amazon Ecopark Lodge is its commitment to environmental sustainability and the preservation of the precious Amazon Rainforest. Through eco-friendly practices and conservation programmes, Amazon Ecopark Lodge seeks to minimise the environmental impact of its operations while promoting awareness of the importance of preserving the Amazon region's incredible biodiversity.

Guests have a wide variety of activities to explore the region, from forest hikes, visits to the monkey forest to canoe trips through the creeks. Expert guides accompany visitors on excursions through the forest, sharing their knowledge about the local fauna, flora and culture, and providing an educational and enriching experience.

For adventure enthusiasts, Amazon Ecopark Lodge offers the opportunity to embark on an exciting night-time caiman-spotting adventure, providing a glimpse into the Amazon's nocturnal wildlife. Additionally, travellers can enjoy boat rides along the region's rivers, observing the rich diversity of birds and animals.

After a day of exploration, guests can relax and recharge in the lodge's facilities, which include a natural pool surrounded by lush Amazonian vegetation and a rest area with hammocks, perfect for contemplating the sunset over the forest.

The gastronomy of Amazon Ecopark Lodge also deserves attention, offering visitors a delicious variety of regional dishes prepared with fresh ingredients and authentic flavours of the Amazon.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- 70 rooms
- Air conditioning and wifi
- Four natural swimming pools
- Restaurant
- Bar
- Private beach

### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Guided jungle trail walk
- Canoeing
- Visit to Monkey Island
- Night tours
- Amazon river dolphin tour

### GET IN TOUCH

[amazonecopark.com.br](http://amazonecopark.com.br)  
T: +55 92 99146 0575  
E: [reservas@ecoparkjungle.com.br](mailto:reservas@ecoparkjungle.com.br)

**DON'T MISS** Keep an eye out for the iconic Amazon River dolphins while embarking on a thrilling tour of the local wildlife





# Boutique Travel Experts

## BRAZIL

Boutique Travel Experts is a small independent tour operator working with a handful of selected destinations, including the vibrant Brazil. Founded in London in 2018, the Boutique Travel Experts team is scattered around the globe today, offering an exceptional level of service and in-depth knowledge.

Planning a trip to Brazil? Want to know where to begin? The team at Boutique Travel Experts will help design the trip every step of the way. By using their expert understanding of the country, they aim to ensure that travellers get the most out of their time. Visitors are invited to a genuine exploration of Brazil, away from the usual tourist trails.

Escape to lesser-known beaches, stay in hand-picked boutique hotels and discover the hidden gems. Dare to walk the path leading to the thrilling table mountains of the four *chapadas* (plateaus) of Brazil, located deep in the cerrado? Keen to discover the turquoise lagoons of Lençóis Maranhenses or the villages of Minas Gerais?

Guests can snorkel in the turquoise rivers of Bonito, visit the bird park of Iguazu Falls or explore the wetlands of Pantanal, teeming with wildlife.

**DON'T MISS** Step back in time in Vale do Café, where charming coffee fazendas (historic farms) tell the story of Brazil's past

Then, stay in the palm-fringed village of São Miguel dos Milagres and visit the bohemian beaches of Pipa.

Travellers can get to know the real Brazil and enjoy a truly authentic experience that goes beyond the surface.

Whether you're seeking a family adventure or a trip with a group of friends, or perhaps even a memorable honeymoon, Boutique Travel Experts will work hard to support each traveller's needs and help craft a beautiful holiday that lives long in the memory. Its family-focused trips, for example are specially crafted to take into account the unique needs of every member of the family, from the youngest to the oldest.

What's more, the company is committed to responsible travel and works with small, boutique hotels that offer a more personalised service, which of course helps to create a more meaningful experience. Travellers can tailor each trip to their wants with the guidance of the team, who will ensure they create a truly unforgettable trip. In the near future, Boutique Travel Experts will add Mexico as one of their Latin American destinations.

## Need to know

### KEY TRIPS

- Best beaches – São Miguel dos Milagres, Pipa & Fernando de Noronha
- Marvellous Bahia – Boipeba, Maraú, Itacaré & Trancoso
- History – Ouro Preto, Tiradentes & Diamantina
- Christmas and New Year's Eve – Bahia and Alagoas, Costa Verde
- Easter – Iguazu Falls, Florianopolis, Aparados da Serra

### KEY FEATURES

- In-depth knowledge
- Hand-picked small boutique hotels
- Family-friendly trips
- Honeymoon holidays
- Tailor-made itineraries
- 24/7 support line

## GET IN TOUCH

[boutiquetravelexperts.com](https://boutiquetravelexperts.com)

T: + 44 (0)7308 449 233 (WhatsApp)

E: [brazil@boutiquetravelexperts.com](mailto:brazil@boutiquetravelexperts.com)





# Fairmont Rio de Janeiro Copacabana

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

The Fairmont Rio de Janeiro Copacabana is the first Fairmont hotel in South America. It's located in the heart of Rio, in the iconic Posto 6 beachfront destination, and has welcomed guests from around the world since its opening in 2019.

The hotel's design was inspired by the elegance of Rio de Janeiro in the 1950s, with 375 stylish rooms in a building that overlooks the renowned Copacabana Beach. The hotel's architecture successfully captures the city's atmosphere with well-thought-out designs incorporating its famous surroundings. For example, the entrance level magically integrates with the iconic outdoor promenade along Copacabana Beach. Guests looking to learn more about the hotel's architecture are welcome to join an art and design tour that delves into the history and concept of the hotel in more detail.

The city's vibrant style is present in the hotel's dining locations and menus, which prioritise quality Brazilian ingredients. Guests can dine at Marine Restô — the hotel's exclusive restaurant with breathtaking ocean views, relax at the Spirit

Copa Bar or opt for a moonlit dinner from the comfort of their balcony, where they can choose from an exclusive menu. Guests should also check out the Tropik Beach Club, a Mediterranean-inspired beach club, where traditional Greek dishes are served in a relaxed and fun environment, often accompanied by thrilling live music performances.

There is a range of outdoor activities to enjoy, from beach tennis to stand-up paddleboarding and canoeing. Golf enthusiasts even get the chance to play at a picturesque Olympic golf course. Afterwards, guests can rejuvenate at the Fairmont Spa, where luxury facilities and treatments are available.

Whether you're travelling for business or leisure, the hotel offers excellent services. It stands out as a key location in the city for corporate events, with 13 rooms equipped with high-tech infrastructure for meetings, workshops and conventions — complete with panoramic views of the city. In addition, a bilingual team is on hand to assist with all business events.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Two restaurants and a cafe
- Working spaces
- Fairmont Spa
- Pet-friendly rooms

### KEY TREATMENTS

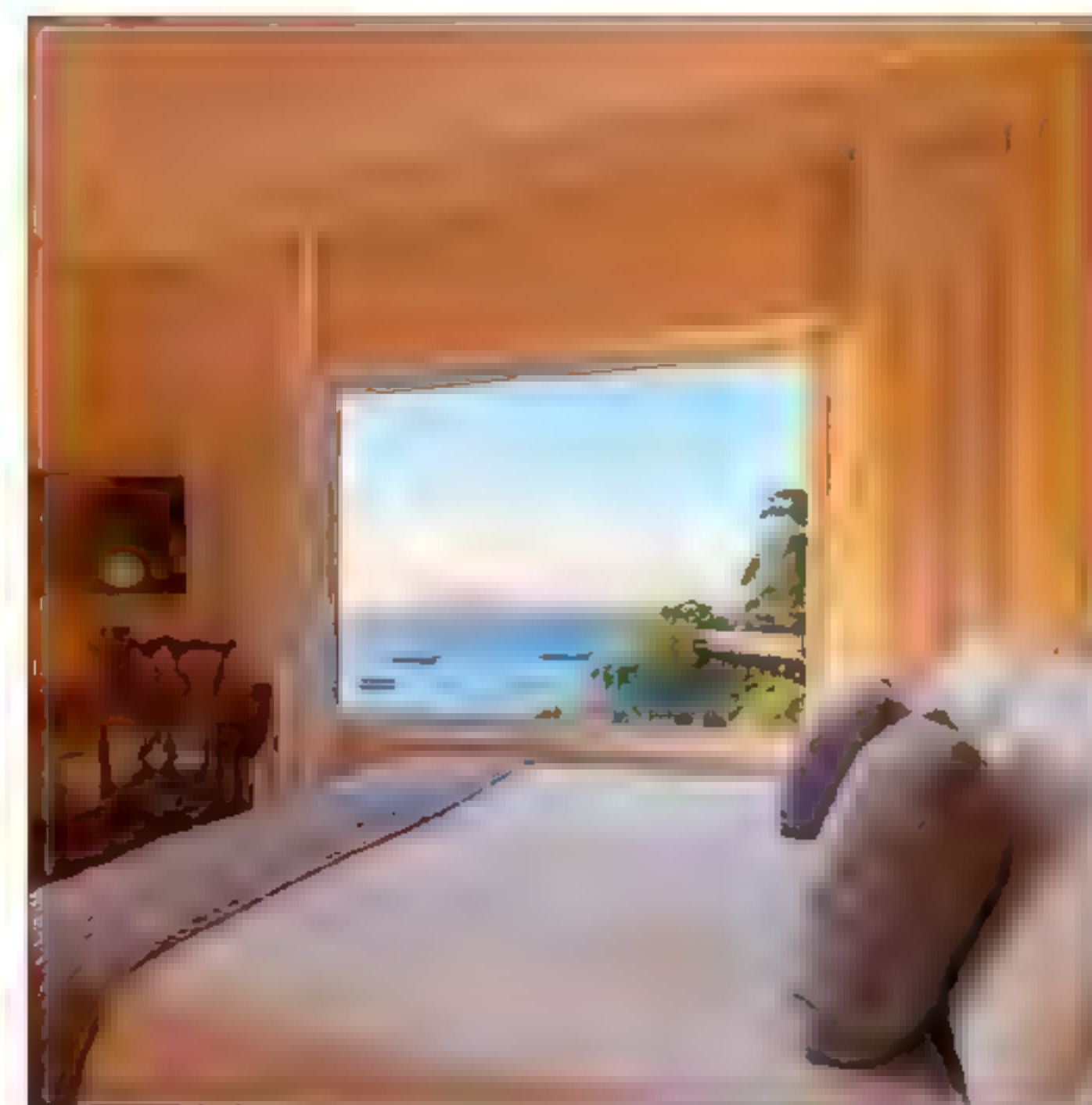
- Full-body massages
- Advanced facials
- Signature rituals
- Body treatments
- Sauna
- Fitness centre

### GET IN TOUCH

[fairmontrio.com](https://fairmontrio.com)  
T: +55 (21) 2525 1232  
E: [copacabana.reservations@fairmont.com](mailto:copacabana.reservations@fairmont.com)  
[fairmont.com](https://fairmont.com)

**DON'T MISS** From Monday to Sunday, enjoy diverse music performances by the hotel's infinity pool





# Abracadabra Pousada

## RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Abracadabra Pousada in Búzios, Rio state, is an oasis on a sunny hill where guests can spend the day on beautiful handmade wooden sunloungers by the stunning infinity pool, while taking in spectacular views of the bay. The rooms are perfect for couples seeking comfort in a pleasant and calm environment. The rustic style, combined with clean and stylish interiors, evokes the Mediterranean without losing its Búzios identity.

There are rooms with balconies and sea views, a suite with a bathtub and king-size bed and cosy rooms with garden views.

The rooms are fully equipped to meet all guests' needs, with amenities by L'Occitane, housekeeping twice a day, food and drinks, spa treatments and more. For guests celebrating special occasions, the pousada offers various experiences that can be arranged through Abracadabra's website. One of the most popular packages is the 'Romantic Experience', which includes a seasonal fruit basket, rose petals and candles in the room upon arrival, dinner at Místico Restaurant and a bottle of sparkling wine.

The Búzios peninsula is only 110 miles away from state's capital Rio de Janeiro. It's surrounded by paradisiacal beaches with varied attractions and a perfect climate for an unforgettable holiday.

One of the pousada's highlights is Místico Restaurant's award-winning cuisine. With a bar and outdoor tables facing the Bay of Armação, the restaurant creates the ideal environment to sample fresh produce and the best fish in the region. The dishes combine contemporary and Mediterranean influences under the helm of Chilean chef Félix Sánchez. The bar deserves a mention, too — the bartenders create incredible cocktails, following the latest trends while respecting local flavours.

There are several beaches within walking distance of the pousada, so everyone can find a favourite among the 26 beaches that Búzios has to offer. Rua das Pedras is the most well-known street, with a lively nightlife, restaurants, bars, and shops and boutiques. Búzios grew out of a charming fishing village and maintains local traditions in a fun and colourful way. An array of boat trips and city tours are also offered by the concierge team.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 24-hour reception
- Breakfast included
- Room service
- Five-star restaurant
- Close to the main beaches
- Transfers

#### GET IN TOUCH

[abracadabrapousada.com.br](http://abracadabrapousada.com.br)

T: +55 22 2623 1217

E: [reservas@](mailto:reservas@abracadabrapousada.com.br)

[abracadabrapousada.com.br](http://abracadabrapousada.com.br)

**DON'T MISS** Watch the best sunset in the city while enjoying a cocktail at Místico Restaurant Bar





# Pousada Estrela D'Água

BAHIA, BRAZIL

In the magnetic district of Trancoso, in the southern part of Brazil's Bahia state, the enchanting Pousada Estrela D'Água has provided a haven for more than two decades. The history of the region is integral to that of Brazil, as it was here that the Portuguese first arrived in the country, in 1500. Trancoso is one of the most charming villages in southern Bahia; a truly exceptional place in the middle of breathtaking landscapes. Golden beaches, emerald sea, Atlantic rainforest and a respect for the ecosystem shape this picturesque spot. The allure of the village — with its array of colourful fishermen's houses — comes through in the stores, bars and restaurants that light up its central space, the Quadrado, at night.

Enveloped by gardens and the ancient Atlantic Forest, this boutique accommodation offers 28 exquisitely appointed suites and bungalows, seamlessly blending opulence with the innate beauty of nature. Each space is a testament to the region's magnetism, with 20 units featuring private green spaces, and eight expansive bungalows with exclusive amenities such as private pools, hot tubs and pergolas adorned with hammocks.

**DON'T MISS** Indulge in a private dinner beside the Atlantic Ocean, your table lit by a bonfire and the full moon

Inside, guests are greeted by an ambience defined by simplicity and thoughtful design, inviting them to unwind and feel at home amid the tranquil surroundings. Beyond its idyllic setting and personalised service, Pousada Estrela D'Água offers experiences that cater to diverse interests, blending relaxation with adventure and cultural immersion. From leisurely strolls along nearby Nativos Beach to thrilling activities such as kayaking and quad biking, there's something to delight every visitor. The hotel presents two exceptional dining options: Bar da Costa exudes a laid-back, contemporary vibe, while Aldeia de São João offers a romantic ambience perfect for dining under the stars.

Moreover, the hotel's amenities extend beyond mere indulgence, with facilities such as a gym designed by renowned personal trainer Cau Saad, allowing guests to prioritise their wellbeing during their stay. Travellers with children and pet owners can appreciate the family-friendly atmosphere and pet-friendly policy, while golf enthusiasts will find themselves conveniently close to Terravista Golf Course, among the best of its kind in Latin America.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Beachfront bar
- Swimming pool with ocean view
- Bungalows with private swimming pool
- Personalised services
- Aldeia de São João restaurant

### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Biking in the Atlantic Rainforest
- Motorboat getaways
- Paddleboarding
- Traditional ceramics class
- Visit the Pataxó Indian Reserve
- Whale watching (mainly August and September)
- Kayaking in the mangroves
- Golf

## GET IN TOUCH

[estreladagua.com.br](http://estreladagua.com.br)  
T: +55 73 99821 9934  
E: [reservas@estreladagua.com.br](mailto:reservas@estreladagua.com.br)





# Rancho do Peixe

## CEARÁ, BRAZIL

Rancho Do Peixe sits in the heart of the nature-rich Praia do Preá, where wildlife abounds and the beaches are fanned by gentle breezes. More than just a seaside retreat, it's a sanctuary with sustainability and care for the local community at its core. The hotel has been part of the charming fishing village for 20 years, paying respect to the importance of protecting the region's beautiful natural environment.

The bungalows were designed with nature in mind, prioritising natural wind circulation and foregoing air conditioning, providing an experience that values comfort through simplicity and charm. It's an invitation to disconnect from the digital world and reconnect with the essence of beach life.

With four gastronomic offerings, the hotel caters to all tastes. These include the Beach Bar, providing a varied menu using fresh ingredients with a stunning beach view; the resort restaurant, offering regional flavours of native cuisine; the wood-oven pizzeria's Mediterranean recipes; and the exclusive fine-dining experience at Sazô.

**DON'T MISS** Drift with the winds among the surf in Preá, the enchanting mecca of kitesurfing in Brazil

Rancho do Peixe is a playground for watersports enthusiasts. The Water Sports Centre provides a variety of exciting activities and opportunities to improve your skills, with a specialised team ready to guide you, whether you're an enthusiastic beginner or a seasoned veteran. These include everything from standup paddleboarding and kayaking to surfing and windsurfing.

Moreover, a variety of experiences such as sunset picnics, yoga classes, massages and more can be easily organised via the concierge. These activities are designed to make the most of the area's astounding natural beauty and to enhance the guest experience. The concierge can also assist guests in scheduling transfers to Vila de Jericoacoara, located a 30-minute drive from Preá, where guests can enjoy the charm of the partner hotel, Vila Kalango.

By choosing to stay at Rancho do Peixe, guests can immerse themselves in a rich natural experience while also being part of an initiative that values the local environment and community in all its endeavours.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Concierge
- Special events
- Watersports centre
- Equipment renting and/or storage
- Airport transfers
- Beach Bar and pizzeria
- Restaurant and bar
- Fine dining at Sazô
- Swimming pool
- Games room and TV lounge
- Child care

#### KEY FEATURES

- Watersports lessons
- Yoga
- Beach tennis
- Horse-riding tour
- Buggy tours

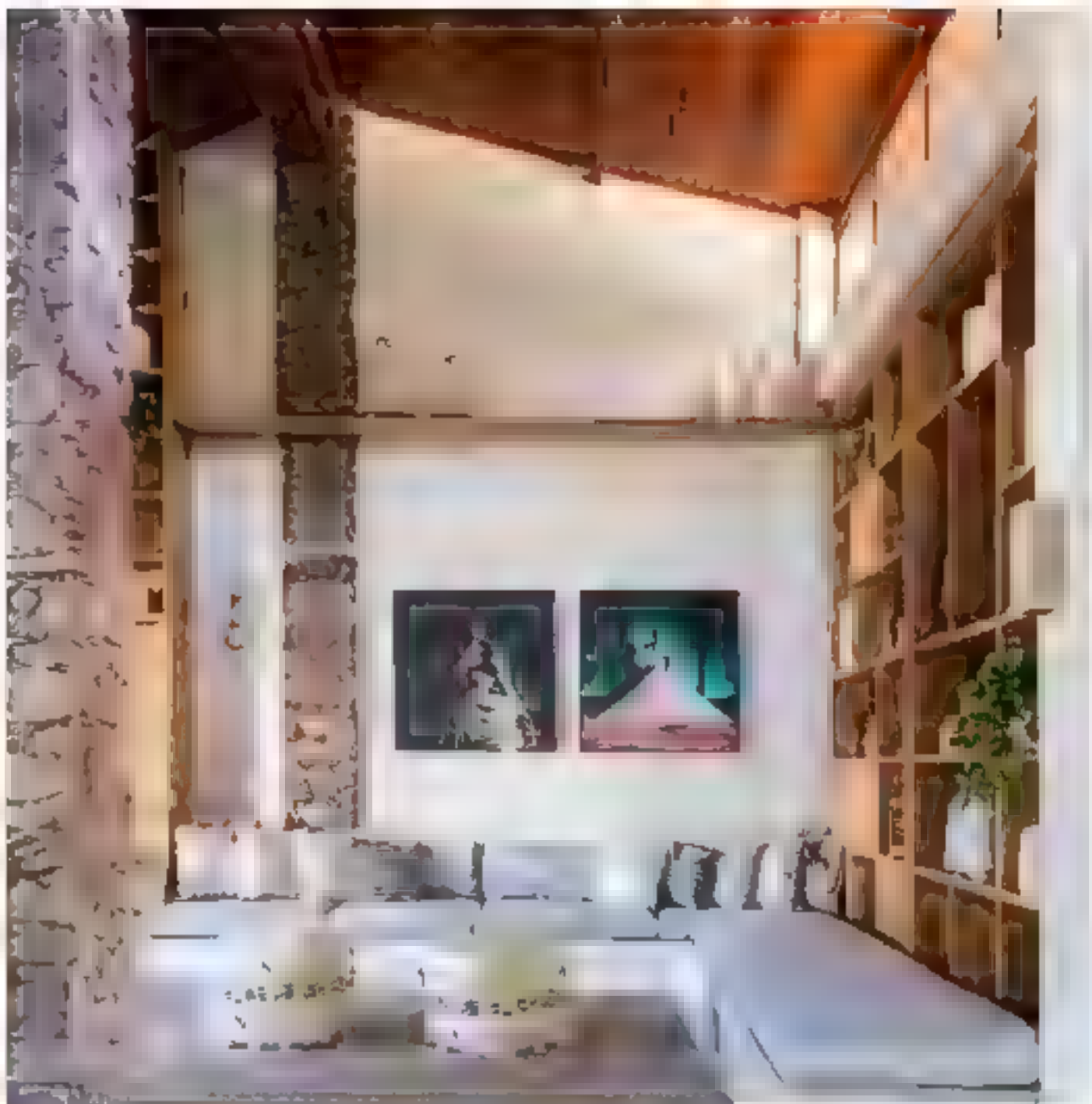
#### GET IN TOUCH

[ranchodopeixe.com.br](http://ranchodopeixe.com.br)

T: +55 88 8827 7319

E: [reservas@ranchodopeixe.com.br](mailto:reservas@ranchodopeixe.com.br)





# Refúgio na Serra Boutique Hotel

MUCUGÊ, BRAZIL

Refúgio na Serra Boutique Hotel allows guests to enjoy unique, tranquil moments and foster a connection with nature. Featuring just 12 rooms distributed among Bungalow, Garden Suite, Design Suite and Master categories, the hotel offers exclusivity and comfort amid stunning mountain scenery.

The elegant and cosy Bungalows are perfect for couples. They feature a private balcony facing the garden along with views of the mountains. They also have a hammock, designer furniture and high, chalet-style ceilings.

Located on the ground floor, the Garden Suites are cosy and spacious, featuring a veranda and access to the garden, a swinging hammock, a bathroom area facing a vertical garden and a small lounge and sofa.

Superior Design Suites are located on the upper floor and have high ceilings, designer furniture and a beautiful view. These rooms are ideal for couples.

The Serra Vista Design Suite is also located on the upper floor and has high ceilings, a glass-walled bathroom with blinds for optional privacy,

designer furniture and large windows that provide a stunning view of the mountains and open up in front of the bed.

The Master Suite's fully glazed extension enables guests to enjoy a panoramic view of the surrounding landscape. It features a super-king bed and a spacious living room with boho-style decor that adds a sense of personality and warmth. The bath is perfect for moments of relaxation and contemplation. This suite also includes a private balcony.

The hotel's gourmet a la carte breakfast includes a variety of fresh and flavourful options, including pies and yogurts handmade in the hotel's kitchen. The contemporary Paraguassu Restaurant aims to provide a truly special dining experience with lunches on its deck or romantic candlelit dinners.

Guests who prefer to relax and unwind can indulge in a range of massages at the hotel's stunning spa, which also features a hot tub, while those wanting to reconnect with nature can enjoy a private picnic with views of vineyards and the mountains beyond or hike to a nearby waterfall.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Firepit
- Lounge and library
- Coffee lounge
- Mini spa
- Bikes
- Restaurant

### GET IN TOUCH

[refugionaserra.com.br](https://refugionaserra.com.br)  
T: +55 71 98136 5626 (WhatsApp)  
E: [contato@refugionaserra.com.br](mailto:contato@refugionaserra.com.br)

**DON'T MISS** Spend an evening with friends and family around the outdoor firepit, enjoying a Brazilian Chardonnay from the vast wine list





## Vila Santa Teresa

### RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Hailed as one of Rio de Janeiro's most charming neighbourhoods, Santa Teresa is characterised by regal mansions set along cobbled streets. A cultural centre, Santa Teresa encapsulates scenic parks, artists' ateliers and acclaimed restaurants. In the heart of this bohemian district, encircled by lush greenery, Vila Santa Teresa is a luxury boutique hotel located in a 21,000-acre private urban oasis.

Vila Santa Teresa, initially built as the Monteiro de Carvalho family residence, was renovated in 2017, resulting in a unique fusion of historical tradition and modernity. The hotel's signature suites are welcoming and sophisticated, and all rooms are generously spacious and elegantly furnished.

The suites are filled with natural light and their large balconies offer guests exceptional views, including Sugarloaf Mountain, Guanabara Bay or the hotel's garden with its century-old mango tree. The master suite features floor-to-ceiling glass doors that lead to a balcony with panoramic views of the glittering city and the iconic Christ the Redeemer. This lavish suite also features an elegant en-suite bathroom bedecked in rare Carrara marble.

The hotel's restaurant, Beatriz, has a seasonally changing menu that features traditional Brazilian dishes prepared using French culinary techniques. The on-site vegetable garden also supplies freshly grown, organic herbs and greens. For Sunday brunch, guests can taste a range of delicacies in the restaurant's sophisticated atmosphere.

In addition to a steam room and outdoor pool, the spa at Vila Santa Teresa provides a range of personal and luxurious wellbeing treatments. Taking a unique approach to natural skincare and aromatherapy, the spa sees modern aesthetic techniques delicately intertwined with nature to offer guests a relaxing escape.

Vila Santa Teresa is the ideal gateway to the natural wonders of Rio de Janeiro. The team is dedicated to curating personalised and carefully designed experiences across the estate — from a romantic candlelit dinner in a private gazebo to a 5am breakfast overlooking the city while a private chef cooks with fresh ingredients. The hotel offers meticulously designed experiences to transform every encounter into a memorable moment.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Private driver service
- Exclusive private garden
- Stunning views

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Sunrise breakfast with panoramic view
- Romantic candlelit gazebo dinner
- Tropical high tea
- Picnic with famous Rio views
- Helicopter sightseeing
- Curated shopping experience
- Discover the wonders of Rio's Carnival

#### GET IN TOUCH

[vilasantateresa.com](https://vilasantateresa.com)

T: +55 21 2051 1905

E: [reservations@](mailto:reservations@vilasantateresa.com.br)

[vilasantateresa.com.br](https://vilasantateresa.com.br)

**DON'T MISS** Admire Rio's postcard-worthy views while enjoying a private outdoor seafood barbecue of fresh fish, lobster and octopus





# Zorah Beach Hotel

## TRAIRI, BRAZIL

Located on Guajiru beach among tall sand dunes, coconut trees and an idyllic white-sand beach, Zorah Beach Hotel is a beacon of Brazilian hospitality surrounded by natural beauty. Since its founding, this refuge has sought inspiration from Asian traditions to present guests with its concept of exclusivity, enriched with tropical touches and a connection to the local community.

Its design features wide-open spaces surrounded by a beautiful garden, peppered with Indian decoration and Asian touches, all in harmony with the Brazilian tropical environment. The various sculptures, lamps and furniture on display were brought in from Bali, India and the Middle East, and include many exclusive, custom-made and antique pieces. In addition to chandeliers from Turkey and Morocco, the property also sports Iranian rugs and other notable objets d’art, with a highlight being a massive Buddha in the pool area.

Zorah Beach Hotel provides unique moments and unforgettable memories for guests, including special tours and activities. These include buggy and quad bike rides along the seashore and sand

dunes, catamaran rides among the mangroves and exceptional conditions for kite surfing. The property features a spa, gym, beach bar, beach tennis court, reading room, kitesurfing school and events room.

The hotel’s 29 accommodation options are divided into six categories. ‘Villa’ is the most exclusive option, featuring a four-poster bed, private pool, sea views and a balcony with hydromassage pool; Individual Premium Bungalows offer four-poster beds, private pools with sea/pool view, bathroom and garden; Duplex Bungalows have private pools, garden views, a living room and two suites with a maximum capacity of four people; Individual Bungalows offer a four-poster bed, bathroom and views of the garden; Suites have a hydromassage pool and garden views; and the Family House has four suites, a private pool and garden views.

The restaurant has a varied menu that features Brazilian and international cuisine as well as Asian and regional dishes, with a strong emphasis on Indian cuisine. The restaurant is one of the few in Brazil that has a traditional tandoor oven, used to prepare the delectable Indian Tasting Menu.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Restaurant
- Beach bar
- Beach service
- Gym

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

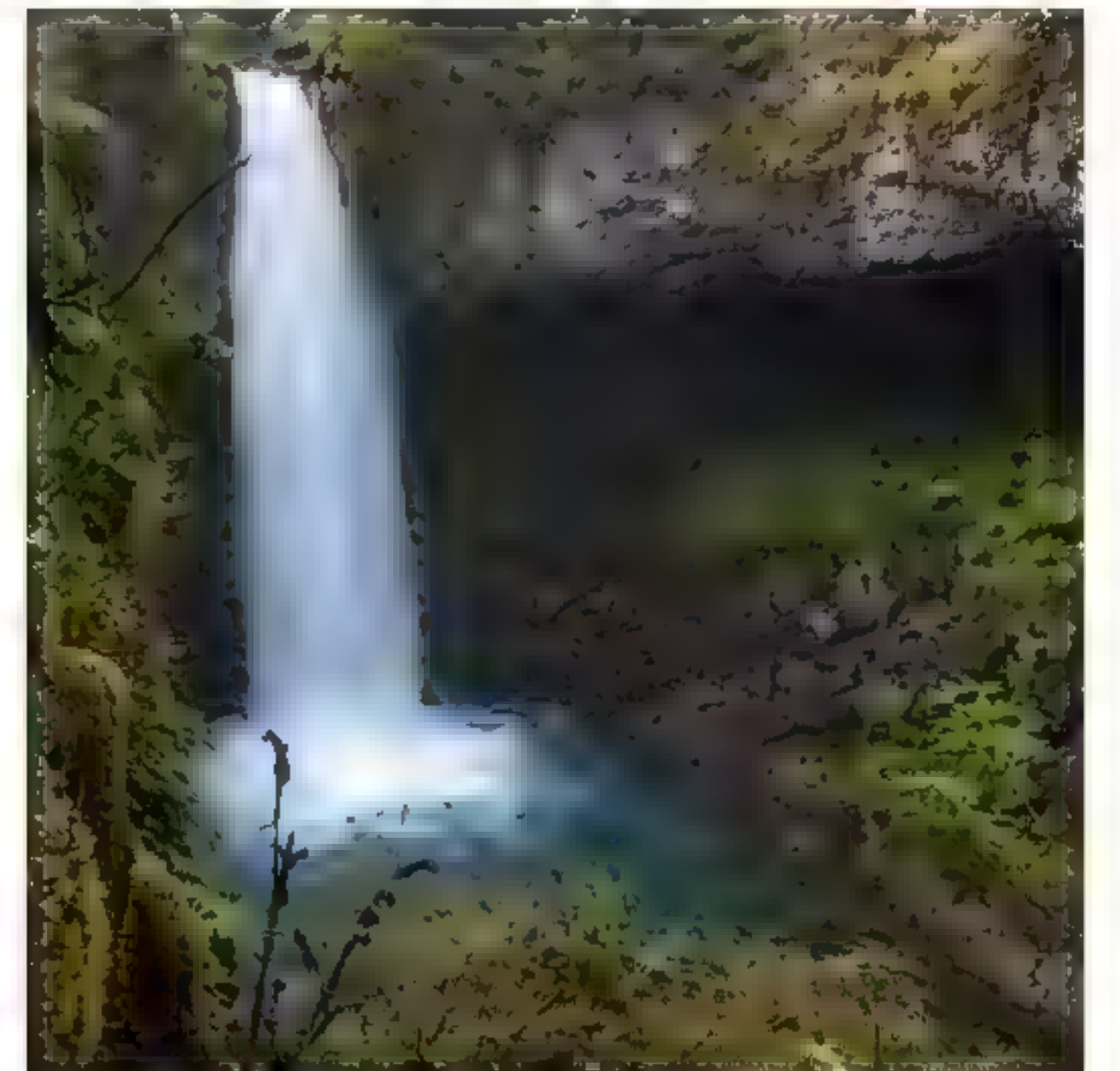
- Buggy rides
- Quad bike rides
- Bike tours
- Private boat trip
- Horse-riding
- Kitesurfing classes

#### GET IN TOUCH

[zorahbeach.com.br](http://zorahbeach.com.br)  
T: +55 85 981601249 / +55 85 997400340  
E: [reservas@zorahbeach.com.br](mailto:reservas@zorahbeach.com.br)

**DON’T MISS** Take a buggy ride along the seashore and sand dunes or try your hand at the exhilarating sport of kitesurfing in the ocean





# Futangue Hotel & Spa

## LAKE RANCO, CHILE

Get ready for a journey through breathtaking natural landscapes of pristine forests, majestic mountains, beautiful lakes, turquoise waterfalls, spectacular lava fields and serene hot springs. This remote and once impenetrable land now has a network of exclusive hiking trails, enabling visitors to enjoy nature like nowhere else in Patagonia.

Futangue is a boutique hotel and nature reserve, representing one of the last remaining off-the-beaten-track locations in the Lake District. It's become a cornerstone of private conservation in Chile and an emerging ecotourism destination, perched on the edge of beautiful Lake Ranco, the third largest in the country.

The project started in 1997 with the construction of complex networks of trails across the Patagonian Andes, opening a world where few people had ever ventured. Over 75 miles of spectacular trails have been created across a protected area of 34,000 acres of native temperate rainforest. These forests are home to unique species such as the endangered Darwin's frog and one of the most ancient marsupials in the world, the monito del monte.

In the meadows closest to Lake Ranco, travellers can stay in Futangue Hotel & Spa, which has only 26 rooms and is the starting point to explore the park. Its architecture highlights the region's native wood and complements the environment, assimilating the classic barns and stables of southern Chile. The decor uses ethnic fabrics and colourful textiles inspired by local artists and objects from the Mapuche culture. The restaurant offers a culinary experience featuring the best ingredients of Northern Patagonia, such as native berries, fresh vegetables from local growers and excellent seafood from the coast.

The spa is right next to the hotel, facing mountains and waterfalls. After a long day of excursions, guests can indulge in the heated indoor pool or the semi-Olympic outdoor pool, take a sauna or revitalise with a selection of massage therapies that make use of local oils and scents.

The project is committed to the conservation of the area's natural heritage and collaborates with environmental education, academic research and the local community. All profits go to conservation efforts and the park's maintenance.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 34,000-acre private nature reserve
- Over 75 miles of hiking trails
- Gourmet restaurant and bar
- Spa with indoor and outdoor pool
- Gift and coffee shop
- Private and group excursions

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Nature walks and hikes for all levels
- Spot the endangered Darwin's frog
- World-class fly-fishing
- Astronomical observation (summer)
- E-bike excursions to the lava fields
- Learn about Mapuche culture
- Kayaking in Pichi Lake

#### GET IN TOUCH

[parquefutangue.com](http://parquefutangue.com)

T: +56 988 195 842

E: [reservations@futangue.com](mailto:reservations@futangue.com)

**DON'T MISS** Set off on a full-day excursion to the Sky Trail and enjoy amazing views of Lake Ranco and some of Patagonia's largest volcanoes





# Loberías del Sur Hotel

## AYSÉN REGION, CHILE

Loberías del Sur, located in the Aysén region of Northern Patagonia, is the perfect place to delve into the breathtaking natural beauty of the area. With its strategic location, the hotel offers guests the chance to see mountains that plunge into the sea, volcanoes, thermal waters, lush native forests and imposing glaciers. Guests can travel along remote fjords to the heart of the world’s unique ecosystem or head out onto the Austral Highway, where the Andes Mountain range merges with the Pacific Ocean.

Loberías del Sur in Puerto Chacabuco goes beyond being just a place to stay; it’s the perfect hotel in which to rest and recharge amid a stunning landscape. The hotel has 60 double rooms adorned with regional woods, top-notch amenities and personalised services. The restaurant, complete with a panoramic view of the Aysén Fjord, fireplace-equipped bar and warm ambiance, is the perfect place to end to a day of exploration.

A catamaran excursion to Laguna San Rafael is one of the most coveted experiences for Loberías del Sur guests. This exclusive trip to the San Rafael

Glacier immerses guests in a world of ice and includes an exploration of the southern fjords, offering close-up views of the glacier.

Loberías del Sur can also take guests on a magical trip to the Marble Caves. This natural wonder, located in the blue waters of General Carrera Lake, is known for its stunning marble formations. Highlights on the boat trip to these caves include soul-stirring colours, natural marble artworks and the crystal-clear water of the lake, all of which leave visitors captivated.

The hotel takes pride in its culinary offerings, focusing on fresh local produce and traditional Patagonian recipes blended with an international touch. Guests can enjoy a variety of gastronomic experiences, from the restaurant with a panoramic view of the Aysén Fjord to a typical regional lamb barbecue. The menu includes local specialities such as salmon, fresh seafood, wild boar and lamb, paired with exquisite Chilean wines. Diners can delight in the rich flavours of Northern Patagonia at Loberías del Sur, where nature and gastronomy converge to create an unforgettable experience.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Four-star plus category
- 60 double rooms
- Restaurant, bar and cafe
- Conference rooms
- Gym and sauna
- Aysén Fjord view
- Airport transfers

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Excursions and navigation
- Hot springs
- Native forest
- Contemplative walks
- Patagonian gastronomy
- Cultural and folkloric dances
- Mountains and volcanoes
- Fjords and glaciers

#### GET IN TOUCH

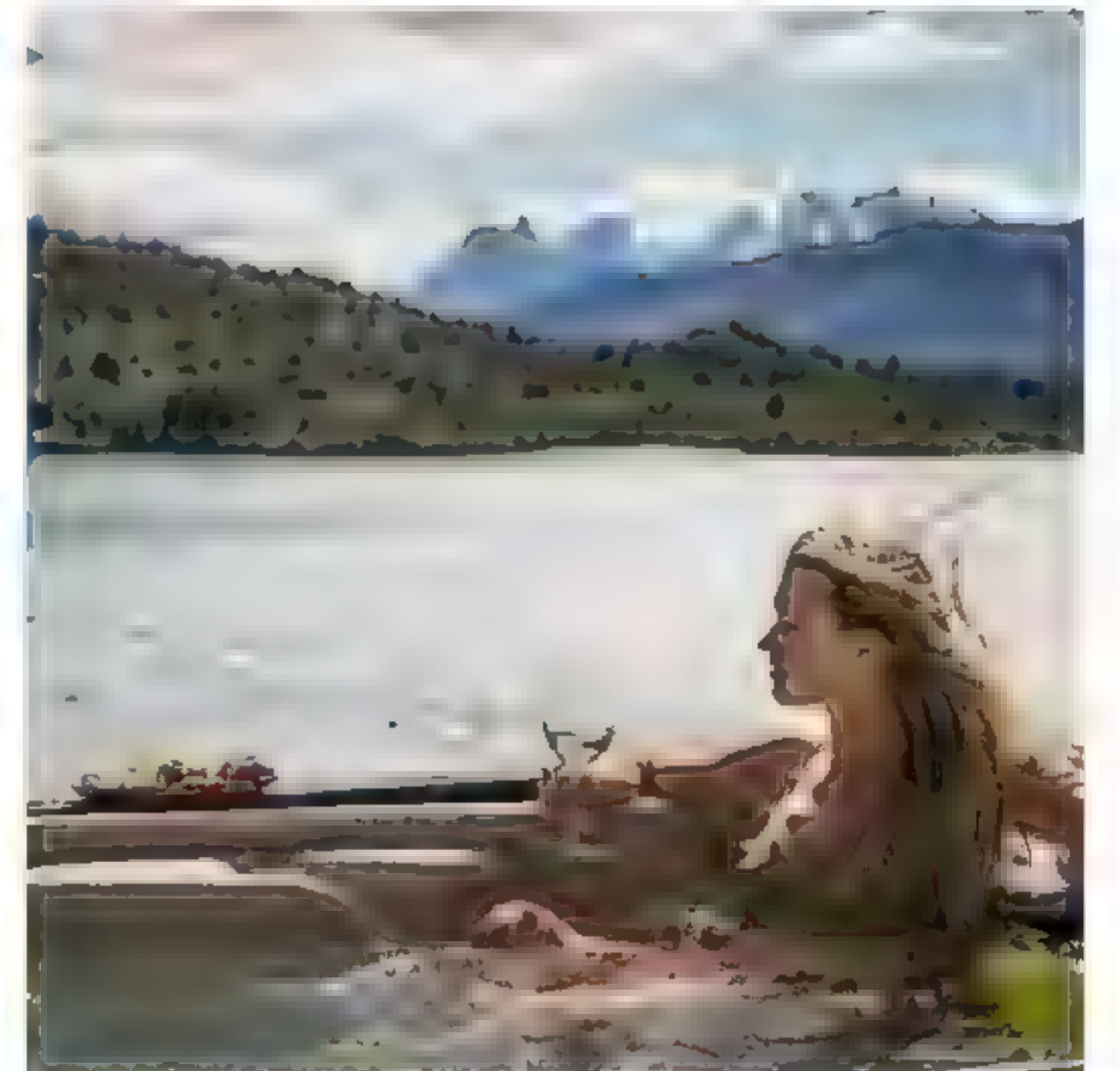
[loberiasdelsur.cl](http://loberiasdelsur.cl)

T: +56 67 235 1112

E: [info@loberiasdelsur.cl](mailto:info@loberiasdelsur.cl)

**DON'T MISS** Guests can take a boat tour to the San Rafael Glacier, where they can enjoy a glass of whisky served with millennia-old ice





# Patagonia Camp

## TORRES DEL PAINE, CHILE

Nestled amid the breathtaking landscapes of Chilean Patagonia, Patagonia Camp Hotel offers travellers an unparalleled retreat next to Torres del Paine National Park. Guests are treated to panoramic views of iconic peaks, shimmering lakes and lush forests.

The property itself embodies the spirit of eco-luxury, with each of its 20 luxury yurts seamlessly blending into the surrounding environment while providing modern comforts and amenities. Patagonia Camp is committed to sustainability, with initiatives such as a minimum-impact operations, composting and recycling programmes in place to minimise its environmental repercussions.

The region around the hotel is home to an array of wildlife, including pumas, which can sometimes be spotted during guided excursions. From the comfort of their private terrace, guests can soak in the serenity of their surroundings, marvelling at the star-filled skies or catching glimpses of local fauna, including woodpeckers and foxes.

Patagonia Camp Hotel takes pride in offering a culinary experience that celebrates the flavours of the region. Guests can savour traditional Patagonian

cuisine created from locally sourced ingredients, including succulent lamb, fresh seafood and native herbs and spices. The on-site restaurant, with its warm and inviting atmosphere, serves as the perfect setting in which to indulge in these gastronomic delights while recounting the day's adventures.

For those seeking relaxation and rejuvenation, the hotel offers a range of experiences designed to soothe body and soul. Guests can unwind overlooking the waters of Lake Toro, take a dip in the outdoor hot tub in their Deluxe + Jacuzzi Yurt, surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature, or walk and relax among century-old trees as part of forest therapy, which will help travellers immerse even more in the pristine nature of Patagonia.

Beyond the comforts of the hotel, Patagonia Camp offers a myriad of outdoor activities for guests to explore the wonders of the surrounding area and Torres del Paine National Park. From guided treks to iconic landmarks such as the Torres del Paine and Grey Glacier to horse-riding adventures through the vast Patagonian pampa, there's something for every adventurer to enjoy.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Private reserve
- Restaurant and bar
- Forest therapy
- Glamping yurts
- Kayaking in Lake Toro

#### GET IN TOUCH

[patagoniacamp.com/en](https://patagoniacamp.com/en)

T: +56 9 9862 8652

E: [bookings@patagoniacamp.com](mailto:bookings@patagoniacamp.com)

**DON'T MISS** The Audio-Guided Forest Therapy experience aims to reduce stress, enhance wellbeing and strengthen guests' connection with nature





# Bio Habitat Hotel

## QUINDÍO, COLOMBIA

Located deep within the Colombian Coffee Triangle, Bio Habitat Hotel provides a new concept of luxury with a range of accommodation enveloped by the rainforest's flora, fauna and wildlife, and providing extraordinary views of the Andes Mountains. Seemingly miles from nowhere, the hotel is in fact just 10 minutes from Armenia, Quindío's capital city, and a mere 40 minutes from Cocora Valley UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Bio Habitat Hotel enables guests to experience both mountain and forest environments. It offers eight different types of 'habitat', all of which are inspired by nature. These include tropical forests, the majestic Andes, vibrant aviaries, cosy nests and Pacific sunsets. From glass-walled habitats with dazzling 360-degree views, to 80sq m habitats with private infinity pools, outdoor whirlpool baths and outdoor net bed, on which guests can relax while suspended over the lush foliage beneath.

Designed under the concept of bioclimatic architecture, Bio Habitat Hotel is committed to a regenerative and sustainable operation. Solar panels provide 50% of the hotel's energy demand,

a natural pond system processes water residue and turns it into gardening nutrients, and the compost system aids forest recovery and biological corridors within the hotel.

Guests can enjoy a variety of exciting cultural events and outdoor activities. Bio Sessions — the hotel's very own musical project — features live performances twice a week, while the Bô Wellness Centre has wellness events and healing rituals. There are also nature tours exploring the region's lush greenery and wildlife, as well as a birdwatching trail within the hotel grounds. The hotel is home to around 150 species of birds, making it a great destination for twitchers. Guests can also set off on an equestrian experience through the Cocora hills or savour coffee tastings at traditional Colombian farms.

The surrounding area has much to offer guests; this gem hidden in the Colombian Andes is known as 'the green sea' in the heart of Colombia. Filled with tropical forests, mountains and rivers ready for exploration, it's the perfect destination for nature-lovers, hikers and wellness-seekers.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Basto Resto Bar
- Bô Wellness Centre

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Cocora Valley nature experience
- Birdwatching tours
- Howling Monkeys Tour

#### GET IN TOUCH

[biohabitathotel.com](https://biohabitathotel.com)

T: + 57 300 525 8040

E: [reservations@biohabitathotel.com](mailto:reservations@biohabitathotel.com)

**DON'T MISS** Feel rejuvenated with a healing ritual at Bô Wellness Centre, where guests can balance their physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing





# Calanoa Amazonas

## AMAZONAS, COLOMBIA

Hour an a half away from the buzzing city of Leticia, lies Calanoa Amazonas, a 125-acre conservation project and boutique hotel in the heart of the Amazon that promises to deliver an immersive and transformative experience.

This tropical paradise is a labour of love by husband-and-wife team, artist Diego and educator Marlene Samper, to contribute to the conservation of biological and cultural diversity in the most impressive jungle in the world. As a result, Calanoa is a one-of-a-kind setting that integrates art, design, architecture, community education and sustainable and respectful tourism.

With only eight cabins — each a literal work of art — guests can experience the wilderness of the jungle at its finest. The cabins, pavilions and social areas combine traditional techniques with a contemporary approach and sustainable architecture that uses local materials and resources. The woven palm roofs are beautiful and fresh, minimal walls enhance air circulation, structures built on stilts create better views and solar panels provide electricity. Guests are able to

enjoy a low-impact and sophisticated setting where luxury means swinging in a hammock to the sound of a symphony of birds.

Calanoa Amazona’s famous cuisine is a fusion of local Amazonian traditions with Brazilian, Colombian and Peruvian gastronomy, all put together by the owners’ creativity. Organic and fresh local produce, firewood cooking and freshly baked bread contribute to a tasty experience.

From a night jungle safari to seeing pink dolphins, people weaving baskets and being dwarfed by 400-year-old trees, the Calanoa experience offers an immersive discovery of the natural and cultural richness of the Amazonian basin.

Through the Calanoa Foundation’s many initiatives, visitors are able to contribute to the conservation of biological and cultural diversity in the Indigenous territories near Calanoa. The Tikuna, Cocama, Huitoto and Yagua territories benefit from these projects that are focused on environmental education, sustainable economic practices, preservation and recovery of ancestral knowledge and cultural traditions.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Restaurant
- Yoga/workshops pavilion
- Lookout point
- Gift store

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Birdwatching
- Pink dolphin watching
- Night jungle safari
- Night canoeing
- Jungle hikes
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Fauna and wildlife expeditions
- Visits to local communities
- Traditional treatments

### GET IN TOUCH

[calanoaamazonas.com](http://calanoaamazonas.com)  
T: +1 416 258 4603  
E: [reserve@calanoaamazonas.com](mailto:reserve@calanoaamazonas.com)

**DON'T MISS** Navigate the mighty Amazon River and contribute to the biocultural preservation of the Amazon basin





# Hotel Charleston Santa Teresa

## CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

The Hotel Charleston Santa Teresa is a beacon of timeless elegance that stands as one of the most exquisite and magical hotels in Cartagena and, indeed, in all of Colombia. It embodies a fusion of old-world regality and modern sophistication, all while extending a gracious welcome to its guests through the warmth of Colombian hospitality.

Following recent renovations, this luxury heritage hotel has integrated elements of a 17th-century former convent into its design, preserving the essence of its colonial heritage. Adorned with valuable pieces of art, the halls, balconies and arcades serve as galleries, while the abundant native plant life creates an oasis within the courtyards.

With a total of 70 guest rooms and 17 suites, each meticulously designed to combine luxury, history, tranquillity, and comfort, the hotel provides an unparalleled retreat for discerning travellers. Accessible through the lobby is Harry's Cartagena Restaurant, under the guidance of renowned Colombian chef Harry Sasson, whose gastronomic mastery has established his restaurants as culinary landmarks in Latin America.

**DON'T MISS** Relax at the rooftop pool with a specially crafted cocktail while enjoying the stunning sunset and city skyline

Perched atop the hotel is a terrace where guests can indulge in Caribbean dishes while feasting their eyes on a panoramic view encompassing the old city, new city, the Caribbean Sea, Cartagena's bustling port and the picturesque landscapes beyond. This level also features a solarium and pool, inviting guests to relax and unwind in the lap of luxury.

Nestled below id La Plaza Santa Teresa, the hotel's private square, a charming oasis tucked between the ancient city walls and the main entrance. Here, guests can savour elegant dishes and artisanal cocktails while enjoying enchanting live music.

For those seeking rejuvenation and a blissful escape from the everyday, the Santa Teresa Spa beckons. The expert therapists curate a diverse menu, from massages to deep-tissue treatments. Guests can also indulge in facials, body wraps and exfoliating scrubs, all using luxurious, carefully selected products to enhance the experience.

With its seamless blend of historic charm, luxurious amenities and unparalleled experiences, Hotel Charleston Santa Teresa ensures an unforgettable sojourn in the heart of Cartagena.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Harry's Cartagena restaurant
- Rooftop pool and restaurant
- Santa Teresa Spa
- Gym
- Professional concierge team
- Luxury experiences
- 24-hour room service

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Cultural classes
- Rum tasting
- Coffee tasting
- Historical city tours
- Day trips to the islands
- Sunset walks along the bay
- Walks along the Historic Center

#### GET IN TOUCH

[hotelcharlestonsantateresa.com](https://hotelcharlestonsantateresa.com)  
T: +57 (605) 664 9494 - 650 1000  
+57 316 0276001 (WhatsApp)  
E: [res@charlestonsantateresa.com](mailto:res@charlestonsantateresa.com)





# Blue Osa Yoga Retreat and Spa

## OSA PENINSULA, COSTA RICA

Escape to Blue Osa Yoga Retreat and Spa, nestled amid the captivating natural beauty of Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula. Located in the south of Costa Rica, Blue Osa is an oasis where the lush rainforest meets the warm shores of the Golfo Dulce, creating an unparalleled setting for relaxation and rejuvenation. Surrounded by rich biodiversity, this tranquil beachside resort offers a unique opportunity to reconnect with nature.

At Blue Osa, the traditional yoga retreat experience is redefined by seamlessly blending the serenity of a beach vacation with the transformative power of yoga and mindfulness practices. This eco-friendly resort, powered mainly by solar energy, ensures that guests' stay harmonises with the environment, allowing them to immerse themselves fully in the sights and sounds of the jungle.

Imagine waking up to the gentle rhythm of waves caressing the shore, the melodies of tropical birdsong and the whisper of the breeze through the trees. Here, guests will find the perfect backdrop for the journey inward. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or new to the practice, the bright open-air studio

overlooking the private beach provides a space for self-discovery and personal growth.

But Blue Osa is more than just a yoga retreat — it's a holistic sanctuary dedicated to nurturing body, mind and spirit. Indulge in farm-to-table cuisine crafted from the freshest local ingredients, harvested daily from the organic garden. The farm-to-table menu, curated by chef Elner, tantalises the taste buds while supporting the local community and promoting sustainable living.

After a nourishing meal, guests can have a luxurious spa treatment, where natural rainforest botanicals and ayurvedic healing transport them to a state of blissful relaxation. Whether it's a purifying facial, invigorating body scrub or soothing massage, the therapists ensure that each experience leaves visitors feeling revitalised.

For those seeking adventure, the Osa Peninsula offers an array of exhilarating activities, from guided nature tours and tropical hikes to kayaking along winding rivers. Explore the wonders of this biodiverse paradise, where every corner reveals a new marvel waiting to be discovered.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 150ft from the beach
- 80ft lap pool
- Surrounded by jungle
- Meditation temple

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Jungle/waterfall hike
- Surfing
- Wildlife tours
- Rainforest spa
- Daily yoga
- Birdwatching tours
- Farm-to-table meals

#### KEY TREATMENTS

- Blue Osa Chakra Balance Massage
- Coconut Body Polish Scrub
- Osa Harmony + Balance Package

### GET IN TOUCH

[blueosa.com](http://blueosa.com)

T: +917 400 9797

E: [info@blueosa.com](mailto:info@blueosa.com)

**DON'T MISS** Indulge in a personalised spa treatment in the beachside jungle spa as the gentle murmur of waves serenade you





# Cala Luna Boutique Hotel & Villas

## TAMARINDO BAY, COSTA RICA

At Cala Luna, ‘wild’ and ‘luxury’ go together as well as ‘sunshine’ and ‘surf’. The boutique hotel’s open-plan spaces and secluded accommodations meld into the lush jungle, which attracts plenty of wildlife. Within this natural retreat, Cala Luna offers barefoot luxury and sensory delight.

Perched at the southern tip of Tamarindo Bay, in the town of Playa Langosta on Costa Rica’s Pacific coast, the hotel is camouflaged by forest. Some of the other hotels in the area line the main thoroughfares, but you won’t find Cala Luna unless you’re looking for it. On approach, the reception area peeks out from among the trees, as if someone’s inviting you to a carefully guarded hideaway.

Cala Luna’s suites and villas are standalone buildings, offering privacy and quiet for the sweetest of dreams. In the morning, instead of halls and elevators, you’ll step out of your door into lush and lovingly tended forest. Follow the winding, shaded paths to the beach or enjoy a poolside breakfast — superb Costa Rican coffee included.

Conservation is a core value at Cala Luna. The grounds remain green even during the country’s

annual dry season thanks to the hotel’s water recycling practices, and solar panels overhead soak up more than enough energy from the tropical sun.

At Origen and Caleta, Cala Luna’s two restaurants, plates feature organic vegetables and herbs from La Senda, the hotel’s family farm. The culinary team strives to make exclusive use of ingredients produced with a low carbon footprint; whatever they can’t harvest, they buy from locals.

Guests can dine even closer to the source with al fresco farm-to-table dinners at La Senda. Browse the organic gardens before taking a seat as Cala Luna’s head chef prepares a unique menu for your dinner, using seasonally available ingredients and personally introducing each dish.

Back at the hotel, Lahari Holistic Spa offers guests a delightful range of signature treatments, including massage, aromatherapy and sound healing. Engage all six of your senses and restore the balance between mind, body and soul with an approach that’s informed by traditional Chinese medicine.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

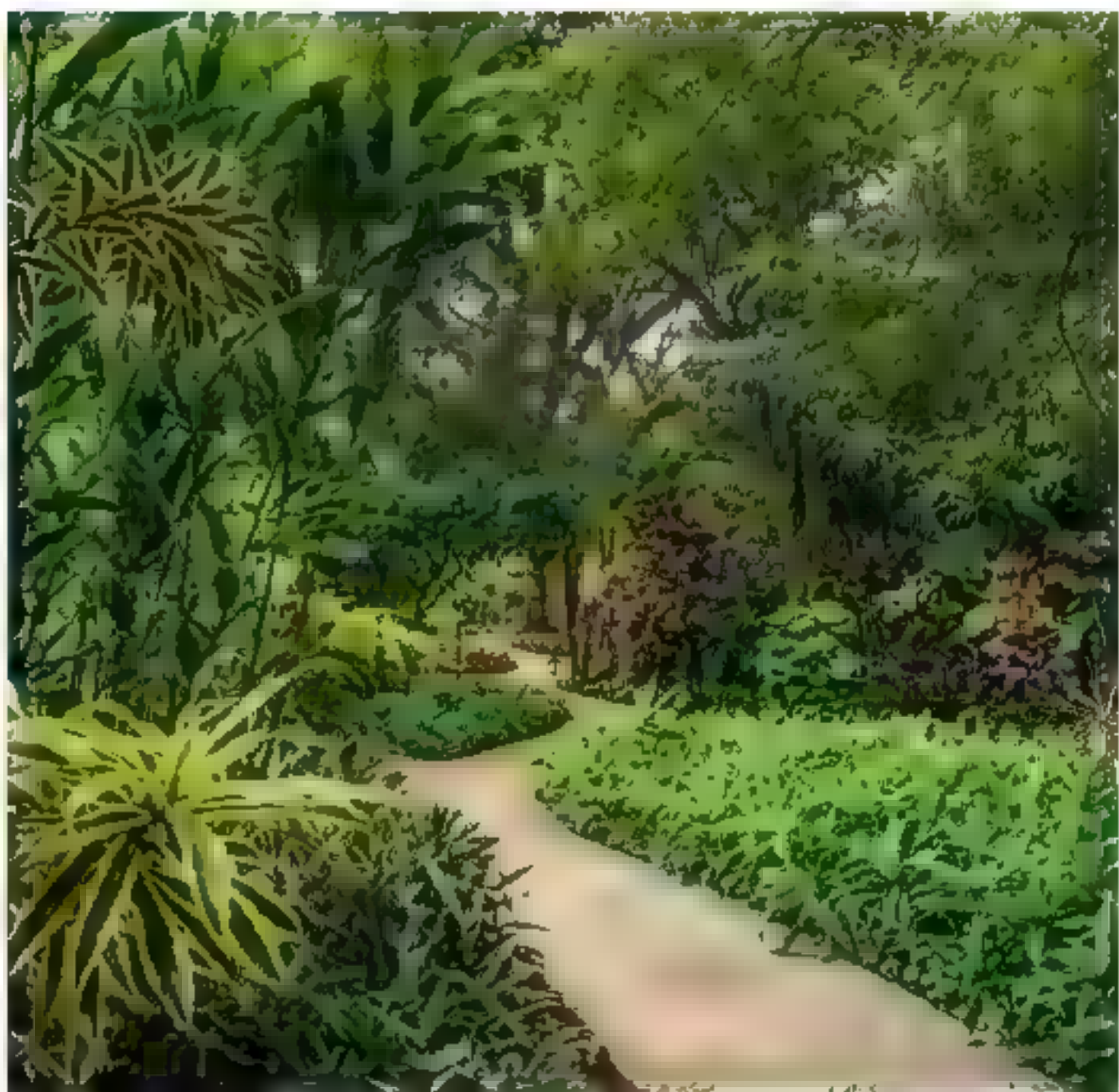
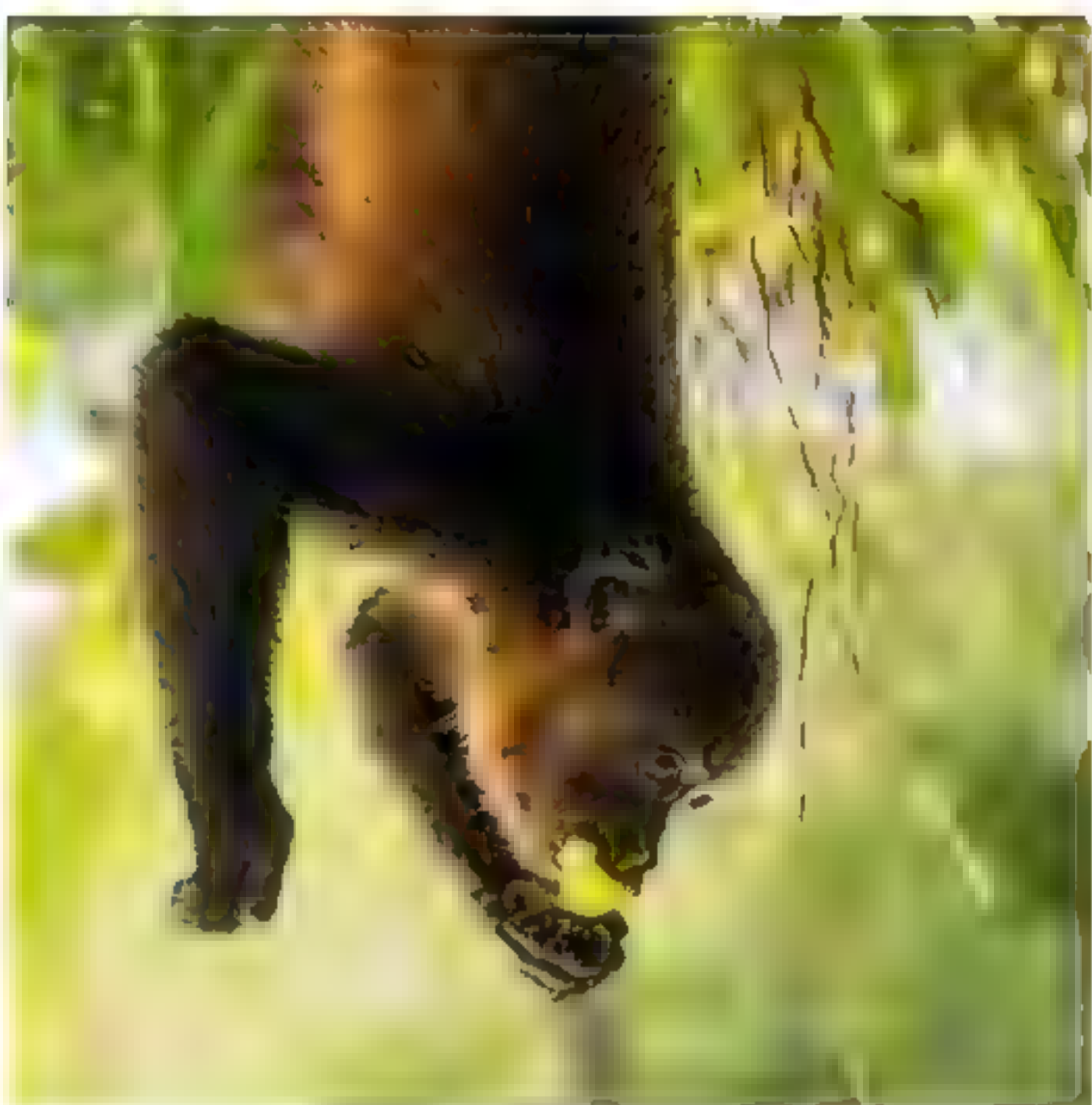
- Deluxe rooms, suites and villas with private pool
- Complimentary breakfast, wi-fi, bikes, yoga and functional workouts
- Sunset cocktails
- Full concierge service
- Lahari holistic spa
- Yoga shala – meeting room
- Origen restaurant: organic, vegetarian and gluten-free options
- Caleta restaurant: pool service and romantic dinners on the beach
- Tamarindo Surf Academy
- Private parking

#### GET IN TOUCH

[calaluna.com](http://calaluna.com)  
T: +506 2653 0214 / +1 317 383 0038  
E: [reservations@calaluna.com](mailto:reservations@calaluna.com)

**DON'T MISS** Cala Luna’s personal and group retreat packages offer deep, unforgettable restoration





# Hotel Capitán Suizo

## TAMARINDO BEACH, COSTA RICA

Capitán Suizo is an environmentally conscious beachfront boutique hotel in an idyllic location directly on Tamarindo, one of the most popular beaches in Costa Rica. Tamarindo’s many cafes, boutiques, bars, restaurants and shops are within walking distance of the hotel.

Capitán Suizo’s 39 units are set beneath native trees and nestled between rich, organically maintained tropical gardens that are home to a wide variety of wildlife. The property is connected to an extensive protected area through a ‘biological bridge’ of indigenous trees, which provides a safe habitat and passage for flora and fauna. Birds, howler monkeys, iguanas, squirrels, geckos and raccoons can be spotted almost every day. With some luck, nocturnal wildlife such as porcupines, skunks, frogs, armadillos and anteaters can also be seen.

The accommodation options at Capitán Suizo include six bungalows, eight ocean-front units, 24 superior rooms and a four-bedroom suite. All are spacious, furnished with local materials and decorated with regional craftsmanship. The

hotel also features a restaurant with local and international cuisine, bar, spa, gift shop, concierge desk and a vast pool area. A yoga room and a gym will be added in 2025.

This beach hotel is an ideal place for relaxation, radiating a tropical ambiance amid a lush, exuberant garden. Exuding a discreet elegance blended with an informal and joyful atmosphere, Capitán Suizo is an oasis that integrates naturally with its beautiful surroundings through love and respect.

Over 95% of the hotel’s staff members are Costa Rican, and many of them are local to the surrounding area. They work with joy and pride to make sure that all guests have a wonderful experience at Capitán Suizo, and are frequently and highly praised by those who stay at the hotel.

Capitán Suizo was founded and is run by the Schmid family, who moved from Switzerland to Costa Rica 30 years ago. Their vision was to create a hotel with a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere where guests, as well as the employees, would feel totally happy.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

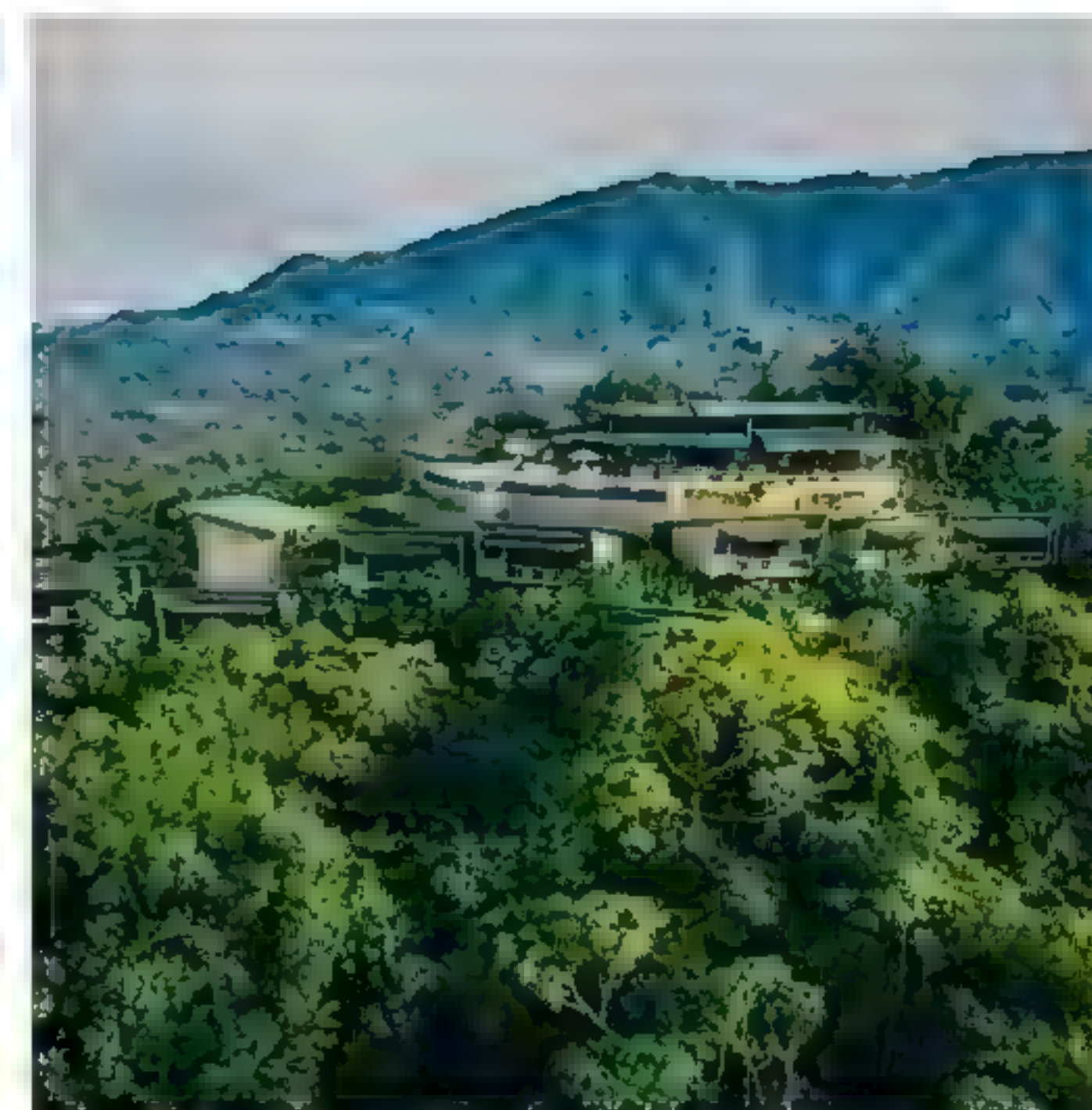
- Restaurant
- Bar
- Spa
- Gift shop
- Concierge desk
- Pool area
- Beachfront

#### GET IN TOUCH

[hotelcapitansuizo.com](https://hotelcapitansuizo.com)  
T: +506 2653 0075 (WhatsApp)  
E: [reservations@hotelcapitansuizo.com](mailto:reservations@hotelcapitansuizo.com)

**DON'T MISS** Watch the local howler monkeys at play in the ancient trees of the garden from the comfort of your sunbed





# Hotel Three Sixty

## OJOCHAL, COSTA RICA

Situated between pristine rainforest and sweeping Pacific Ocean vistas, Hotel Three Sixty is an exclusive haven inviting discerning travellers to embark on a remarkable voyage where every moment is a testament to natural splendour and impeccable hospitality.

Step into a world where luxury intertwines harmoniously with nature's grandeur. As you enter the hotel, you're met with the breathtaking beauty Costa Rica is famous for. The architecture seamlessly blends modern design with the surrounding landscape, creating an atmosphere that captivates the senses and transcends the ordinary.

Enjoy supreme levels of comfort with spacious villas, meticulously crafted with the guest experience in mind. All rooms offer views of majestic landscapes and are designed to evoke a sense of blissful relaxation. Indulge with boutique amenities and personalised service that surpasses all expectations.

Recent accolades in renowned media outlets such as *Forbes*, *Town & Country*, *Travel + Leisure*, and *Glamour* solidify the hotel's growing reputation. Of

particular note are the couples all-inclusive and solo traveller packages, both of which have been ranked among the best in Costa Rica by *Forbes*.

Embark on a culinary journey at the hotel's Kua Kua restaurant, where gastronomic delights are infused with a tropical twist. The menu features an exquisite array of international flavours, curated by talented chefs from Costa Rica and Switzerland. Meals are prepared using the finest ingredients so that each dish tantalises the palate.

Whether you're seeking adrenaline-filled adventures or prefer to immerse yourself in the tranquillity of the rainforest spa, the dedicated concierge team is committed to ensuring that your stay is nothing short of extraordinary. Explore the wonders of the encompassing scenery with bespoke excursions and exciting activities facilitated by the knowledgeable staff.

Visit Hotel Three Sixty and experience the union of nature and elegance in a place where commitment to both exceptional service and attention to detail is unwavering. Your extraordinary journey awaits.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Kua Kua restaurant and 360 bar
- Infinity pool
- Fitness centre
- Yoga deck
- Nature trails

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Nauyaca Waterfalls
- Corcovado National Park
- Whale- and dolphin-watching
- Snorkelling at Caño Island

#### KEY TREATMENTS

- Bamboo experience
- Chocolate wrap
- Deep tissue massage
- Lymphatic drainage

### GET IN TOUCH

[hotelthreesixty.com](https://hotelthreesixty.com)

T: +1 800 417 6712 / +506 4070 9206

+506 8612-9206 (WhatsApp)

E: [reservations@hotelthreesixty.com](mailto:reservations@hotelthreesixty.com)

**DON'T MISS** Watch toucans frolic in nearby trees while sipping a poolside cocktail and enjoying views of the spectacular sunset





## Lagarta Lodge

### NOSARA, COSTA RICA

Discover the magic of Costa Rica at Lagarta Lodge, a sanctuary where travellers fall in love with the country's authentic Pura Vida ('Pure Life') charm. At a juncture of lush jungle, pristine coastline and winding mangroves, this independent boutique hotel is surrounded by a stunning natural tableau.

Perched amid the forest-covered hills overlooking Costa Rica's breathtaking Nosara beaches, Lagarta Lodge is an oasis that invites travellers to celebrate the art of mindful travel. Situated in the Nicoya Peninsula — a renowned 'blue zone', known for its high index of healthy longevity — the lodge provides access to world-class surfing, abundant nature, pristine beaches and a thriving art scene.

More than just a hotel, Lagarta Lodge helps guests foster a deep connection with nature. Its commitment to environmental stewardship and strong community ties are evident in its warm hospitality. In line with its top Certification for Sustainable Tourism (CST) granted by the Costa Rican government, a portion of lodging revenue supports local education and conservation projects, ensuring every visit has a positive impact.

The luxurious accommodation options at Lagarta Lodge range from tastefully decorated rooms to spacious family suites. Each space features original art and handcrafted teak furnishings that reflect Costa Rica's rich cultural heritage. The expansive private balconies offer panoramic views that invite guests to relax alongside the ocean and the dense tropical forest that surrounds them. Lagarta Lodge caters to everyone, from couples seeking a serene retreat to families looking for adventure.

Dining at either the flagship Chirriboca Restaurant or the vibrant Gecko Lounge, guests discover an array of Costa Rican cuisine enhanced by international flair.

The lush gardens of Lagarta Lodge are home to tranquil infinity pools and a secluded whirlpool bath. The family-friendly Motmot Wing features a larger pool complete with a lounging deck, swim-up bar and children's splash pool. The Vista Manglares Spa is a retreat where wellness enthusiasts can either enjoy therapeutic treatments and rituals, or join in rejuvenating Vinyasa and Aerial Yoga sessions at the on-site studio.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Couples' suites
- Two-bedroom options
- Fine dining restaurant
- Cocktail lounge
- Multiple pools
- Heated whirlpool bath
- State-of-the-art spa
- Yoga studio
- Events spaces
- Wine cellar dining
- On-site boutique

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Nosara reserve hike
- E-boat river and mangrove tour
- Visit nearby beaches
- Wildlife excursions

#### GET IN TOUCH

[lagartalodge.com](http://lagartalodge.com)

T: +506 4070 1144

E: [reservas@lagartalodge.com](mailto:reservas@lagartalodge.com) /

[info@lagartalodge.com](mailto:info@lagartalodge.com)

**DON'T MISS** Guests can take rugged trails through the lodge's private Nosara Biological Reserve for close encounters with the region's wildlife





# SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge

## OSA PENINSULA, COSTA RICA

SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge sits at the intersection of two thriving ecosystems: Corcovado National Park, which is one of the world's most biologically intense terrestrial biomes, and the Isla del Caño Biological Reserve, a vibrant marine park teeming with life. The all-inclusive 189-acre private reserve is off-grid, offering eco-conscious accommodations, premium services and gourmet cuisine using locally and sustainably sourced ingredients. There are a range of activities available, from guided jungle treks to snorkelling trips through coral reefs with a marine biologist.

The Osa Peninsula offers a once-in-a-lifetime destination where ocean waves harmonise with the rustle of palm fronds. The lodge features a stunning rainforest village and luxuriously designed ocean-view treehouses, providing a sanctuary for those seeking an unparalleled escape.

Visitors can relax in the newly renovated main pool or, for a more secluded environment, they can head down to the aptly named jungle pool, surrounded by the shade of towering trees. Nourishing dining experiences occur at the new

on-site restaurant, Terra Kitchen, featuring plant-forward, locally sourced meals and breathtaking panoramic views of the ocean.

The lodge offers unique adventures, such as the Arboreal Tree Net suspended among 300-year-old trees, a guided exploration of Corcovado National Park and horse-riding tours that offer glimpses of wildlife, including the elusive puma. Thalassophiles can dive into the underwater wonders of Caño Island on snorkelling or scuba diving excursions. Through SCP's special partnership with Innoceana, guests can participate in immersive opportunities to engage with Costa Rica's marine environment. From tracking turtle migrations to whale monitoring using innovative technologies, visitors can be part of preserving this incredible ecosystem.

What sets SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge apart isn't just its idyllic setting, but the profound impact of every individual's stay. Travelling with SCP Hotels creates a positive ripple effect through the Every Stay Does Good® programme. The conscious decision taken by guests to be part of this experience contributes positively to the global community.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Terra Kitchen
- Luxury treehouse
- Rainforest village
- Beach yoga shala
- Jungle yoga platform
- Beach Pavilion
- The Four Elements Spa
- Main pool
- Jungle pool
- Access to adventure gear
- PADI Dive Centre
- Hiking trails
- 200-acre property
- In-house guides

#### GET IN TOUCH

[scphotel.com/corcovado](https://scphotel.com/corcovado)

T: +506 8413 6446

E: [reservations.corcovado@scphotel.com](mailto:reservations.corcovado@scphotel.com)

**DON'T MISS** There's an array of activities to experience on the Osa Peninsula, from scuba and snorkelling to hiking and treetop tours





# Tierra Magnifica Boutique Hotel

## NOSARA, COSTA RICA

Nestled in the village of Nosara along the pristine Costa Rican coastline, Tierra Magnifica stands as a beacon of luxury and tranquillity, inviting travellers to immerse themselves in the natural wonders of the region while indulging in unparalleled comfort. This exquisite boutique hotel embodies the essence of 'pura vida' (pure life), offering guests an unforgettable experience that seamlessly blends adventure, relaxation and sustainability with culinary delights at Tierra Magnifica's world-class restaurant, Huacas.

The resort's architecture harmoniously integrates with the surrounding landscape, featuring open-air common spaces, cosy ocean-view guest rooms and spacious suites adorned with elegant furnishings and local artwork, creating a serene oasis where guests can unwind in style.

At Tierra Magnifica, the spirit of adventure beckons at every turn. Guests can partake in exhilarating zip-lining excursions above the verdant rainforest, sunset horse rides on the beach, deep-sea fishing, ATV tours up into the mountains, standup paddleboarding in the mangroves and

thrilling surf lessons along the sun-kissed shores. For those seeking a more laid-back experience, guests can enjoy a hike on a private nature trail to a waterfall pool, daily complimentary yoga sessions overlooking the ocean and soothing spa treatments inspired by ancient Indigenous traditions.

Central to Tierra Magnifica's ethos is a deep commitment to sustainability and responsible tourism. The resort takes great pride in its eco-friendly initiatives, including energy-efficient practices, waste reduction efforts and support for local conservation projects aimed at preserving the region's delicate ecosystems.

Tierra Magnifica's award-winning restaurant, Huacas, showcases chef Valerio's talent for creating unique dishes using authentic recipes passed down from local *abuelas* (grandmothers) then infused with the rich flavours and vibrant colours of Costa Rican cuisine, using locally sourced ingredients. Whether savouring freshly caught seafood, indulging in farm-to-table produce or sampling exotic tropical fruits, every meal is a celebration of Costa Rica's culinary diversity.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Full service bar and restaurant
- Pool and lounge beds
- Open-air Jungle lounge
- Library with rainforest nests
- Spa
- 14 ocean-view rooms with balconies
- Private beach club, bar & restaurant

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Yoga classes
- Cooking classes
- On-site nature trail
- E-bike rentals

#### GET IN TOUCH

[tierramagnifica.com](https://tierramagnifica.com)

T: +1 800 600 0881

E: [reservations@tierramagnifica.com](mailto:reservations@tierramagnifica.com)

**DON'T MISS** Make time to try the Blue Zone Tasting Menu, which is hosted by the hotel's nationally recognised executive chef Valerios





# Residencia Santa Clara

## OLD HAVANA, CUBA

Residencia Santa Clara is a haven of tranquillity and charm nestled within the vibrant streets of Old Havana, Cuba. This family-owned and operated seven-room boutique hotel offers an intimate and authentic Cuban experience that leaves a lasting impression on guests.

The hotel provides easy access by foot to all the main attractions of the Old Town, and is just 150ft away from the seafront and Alameda de Paula, the oldest promenade in Cuba.

While minimalist in design, every room at Residencia Santa Clara is a testament to Cuba's rich heritage and culture. Locally crafted furnishings and unique artwork adorn each space, creating an ambiance that speaks to the soul of the island. The integration of modern amenities within the historic building strikes a balance between old-world charm and contemporary comfort.

Residencia Santa Clara features two charming terraces and an air-conditioned lobby bar. These communal spaces provide the perfect backdrop for relaxation and socialisation, allowing guests to unwind after a day of exploration or simply enjoy

the serene atmosphere of Old Havana. Whether sipping cocktails beneath the stars or soaking in the pulsating energy of the city below, the terraces and lobby bar offer an inviting retreat for guests to enjoy throughout their stay.

At Residencia Santa Clara, dining is a homage to the rich flavours and cultural heritage of Cuba. The restaurant offers a delightful array of dishes that pay tribute to the diverse tapestry of Cuban and international cuisine. Despite the commitment to culinary excellence, prices remain refreshingly modest. As for libations, skilled bartenders with more than 20 years of experience can satisfy the craving for a classic Cuban cocktail or something with a modern twist.

In addition to comfortable rooms and exquisite dining options, Residencia Santa Clara offers a variety of experiences to enrich your stay. Whether you choose to explore the historic streets of Old Havana on a guided tour or head out to discover Hemingway's footprints, there are plenty of activities to captivate your senses and ignite your sense of adventure.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Two terraces
- Tour desk
- Bar
- Restaurant
- Complimentary wi-fi
- Free welcome cocktail

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

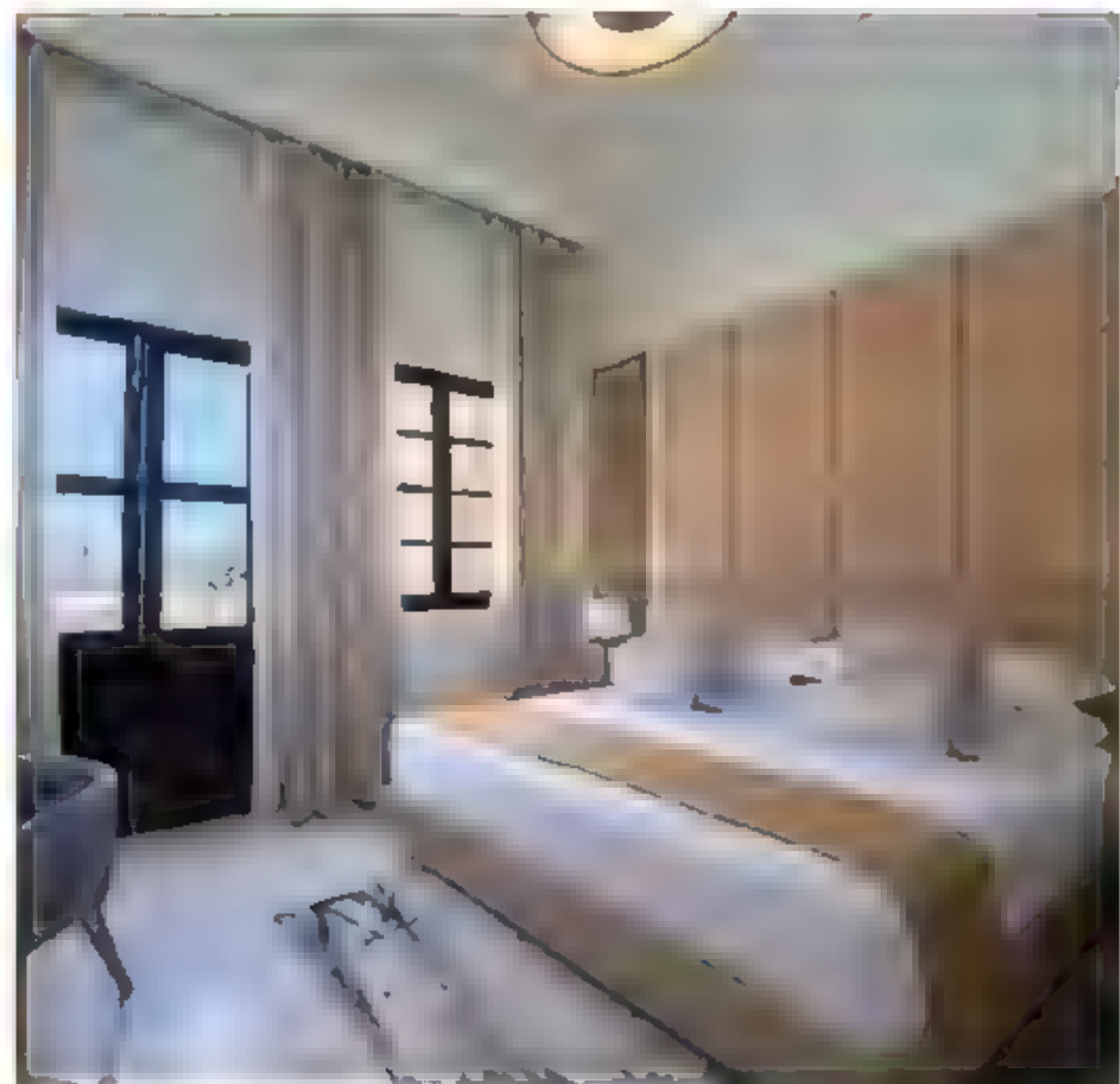
- Hemingway's Footprints Tour
- Trip to Viñales
- Old American Car Combo Tour
- Cigar and rum testing and pairing

#### GET IN TOUCH

[residenciahotels.com](http://residenciahotels.com)  
E: [info@residenciahotels.com](mailto:info@residenciahotels.com)

**DON'T MISS** The Hemingway's Footprints Tour provides a fascinating insight into the famous author's time in Old Havana





# VOYA Boutique Hotel

HAVANA, CUBA

Within a meticulously restored 1925 mansion in one of Havana’s most upscale neighbourhoods, VOYA Boutique Hotel emerges as a beacon of luxury that seamlessly blends Cuba’s colonial heritage with modern sophistication. Recognised as one of TripAdvisor’s Best of the Best in Havana and ranked eighth among the world’s Hottest New Hotels 2023, VOYA offers a sanctuary of luxury and tranquillity amid the vibrant tapestry of Havana.

Each of VOYA’s 10 rooms and suites is a testament to meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail. Lavish amenities, designer furniture and exclusive toiletries ensure a stay that pampers and delights. Guests can choose from a range of comfortable and luxurious rooms. Touches such as twice-daily housekeeping with turndown service, 24-hour in-room dining, complimentary wi-fi, a premium minibar and complimentary bicycle rental elevate the experience. Enjoy a leisurely day by the heated outdoor pool or explore Old Havana with one of VOYA’s curated tours.

Dining at VOYA is an experience that tantalises the senses. The top-rated Brasserie 255 restaurant

showcases a delectable fusion of contemporary Cuban and Mediterranean cuisine. Or enjoy cocktails and tapas in the Secret Garden, an outdoor hideaway bar and lounge with live Cuban music that captures the essence of Havana’s charm.

Beyond its exquisite rooms and dining, VOYA Boutique Hotel offers an array of experiences that immerse guests in the local culture. Private concerts showcase Cuba’s rich musical heritage, while rum and cigar tastings epitomise the island’s indulgences. Personalised tours delve into Havana’s cultural, historical and architectural treasures, revealing insights that only a local or insider could provide. From the hotel, it’s easy to explore the city’s many attractions, including the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Old Havana.

Whether seeking a romantic getaway, cultural immersion or simply a luxurious retreat, VOYA Boutique Hotel Havana is the ultimate destination. Its luxurious accommodations, exceptional dining experiences, amenities and immersive cultural offerings create an unforgettable escape in the heart of one of the world’s most captivating cities.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Luxury accommodations
- Gourmet restaurant
- Outdoor pool with sun loungers
- Tropical lounge bar
- Signature personalised service
- Bespoke tours and excursions
- Complimentary wi-fi

### GET IN TOUCH

[voya-havana.com](http://voya-havana.com)  
T: +53 76395989 / +53 56147642  
E: [hola@voya-havana.com](mailto:hola@voya-havana.com)

**DON'T MISS** Experience the essence of Cuban culture with an unforgettable Cuban cigar and rum tasting or a cocktail masterclass





# Anakonda Amazon Cruises

## AMAZON RAINFOREST, ECUADOR

Discover the heart of the Ecuadorian Amazon in unparalleled comfort with Anakonda Amazon Cruises. The fleet, featuring the opulent *Anakonda* and the adventurous *Manatee*, offers guests an exclusive passage through the mythical Napo River into the world’s most biodiverse and pristine rainforest, Yasuní National Park.

As the only cruise line operating in the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest, Anakonda Amazon Cruises provides an authentic explorer experience that ventures into exclusive areas. The Napo River guides guests to scenes of breathtaking natural beauty and moments of deep connection with the untouched wilderness. Pink river dolphins glide through the currents, while birds fly high showing off their vivid colours.

From the sights and sounds of the jungle to the aromatic scents of the rainforest, each aspect of this experience captivates the senses. Expeditions led by local experts delve into the essence of the Amazon, exploring its intricate ecosystems, discovering the secrets of its wildlife, and meeting the Indigenous people who live in this extraordinary place.

Aboard the *Anakonda* and *Manatee*, where luxury and adventure meet, guests are enveloped in an atmosphere of sumptuous comfort and exhilarating experiences. Guests can indulge in culinary creations that blend local and international gastronomy, enriched with Amazonian aspects. Dine amid a picturesque outdoor setting, while the elegant Crystal Room offers panoramic windows for serene views of the surrounding landscape. Additionally, guests can unwind in a hot tub, while experiencing the ambience of the Amazon, and relax on spacious decks that offer a serene vantage point of river life.

The journey is further enriched by the premium yet cosy suites, each meticulously designed to ensure supreme comfort while enhancing a deep connection with the surrounding nature. The distinctive touch of each suite, featuring private balconies, panoramic windows and personal climate control, alongside the deluxe suites’ river-facing whirlpool tubs, invites guests to luxuriate against the backdrop of a stunning sunset every day.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Air-conditioned luxury suites
- Panoramic views
- Top deck hot tubs
- Local naturalist guides
- VIP lounge in Coca city

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

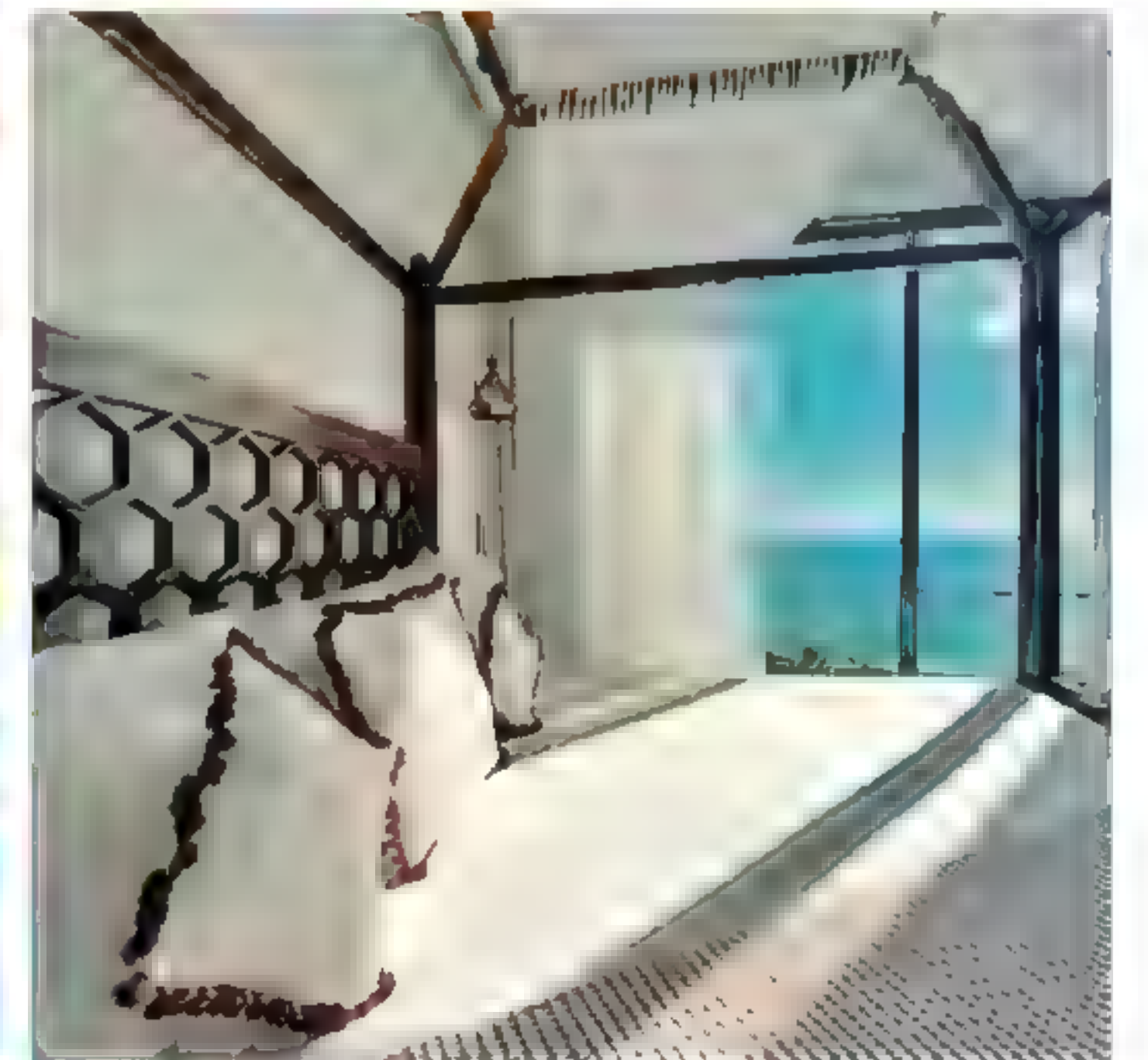
- Wildlife observation
- Pink river dolphins’ interaction
- Meet ancestral communities
- Rainforest excursions
- Night walk
- Canoe excursions
- Kayaking
- Cooking lessons
- Conservation programmes
- Glamping

### GET IN TOUCH

[anakondaamazoncruises.com](http://anakondaamazoncruises.com)  
T: +1 786 220 3251  
E: [info@anakondaamazoncruises.com](mailto:info@anakondaamazoncruises.com)

**DON'T MISS** Anakonda Amazon Cruises’ glamping experience gives the chance to spend an evening immersed in natural beauty





# Garten Hotel

## PLAYA EL ZONTE, EL SALVADOR

Located in the charming beach town of Playa El Zonte, Garten is an exclusive boutique hotel that provides comprehensive resort services in an idyllic setting. Guests enjoy attentive service, premium amenities, integrative cultural experiences and luxurious privacy.

El Zonte is part of an eco-reserve, meaning that breaching whales and hatching turtles are often visible right in front of the hotel. The south-facing beach catches both the sunrise and the sunset, lighting the sky with purple and gold rays. The penthouse and suites are curated specially for travelling couples and can be decorated with flowers and candles on request, while the private villas are ideal for families or groups of friends.

Known for its year-round tropical weather, El Salvador also has many cultural and ecological attractions, for which the hotel provides private tours with certified guides. These activities include visits to Mayan ruins, the Santa Teresa thermal baths, hiking to Santa Ana Volcano and the Tamanique waterfalls, scuba diving, fishing, golf and surfing. Yoga is available at sunset on the oceanfront terrace

three times per week, and spa treatments and massages are available by appointment.

The restaurant menu incorporates local ingredients, tropical fruits and fresh seafood in a medley of traditional Salvadorian and more contemporary dishes. *Boca colorada a la sal* is a signature seafood dish featuring red snapper speared in the sea caves in front of the hotel, baked and served tableside by chef Fernando. Golden mangos are grown just behind the villas, along with passion fruit, dragon fruit, pomegranates and figs.

The hotel also offers group and event planning, such as destination weddings, corporate retreats, family reunions and more through its event staff and concierge. Tours and activities can be planned in advance or at check-in.

For those planning to visit El Salvador for the first time, as well as those who have already discovered its allure and are returning, Garten Hotel makes sure that guests' arrivals and experiences are relaxing, authentic and memorable, and helps them to enjoy the country's unique culture and environmental beauty.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Proa restaurant
- Fitness centre
- Swim-up tiki bar
- Cafe

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Golf
- Sport fishing
- Mayan ruins excursion
- Santa Ana volcano hike
- Surfing
- Yoga

#### KEY TREATMENTS

- Sport recovery massage
- Couples massage
- Moroccan-style hammam
- Coffee body scrub

### GET IN TOUCH

[gartenzonte.com](http://gartenzonte.com)

T: +503 6312 0143

E: [bookings@gartenzonte.com](mailto:bookings@gartenzonte.com)

**DON'T MISS** Order the *boca colorada a la sal* signature dish, featuring local red snapper baked in salt and served tableside





# Fort Morgan Cay

## PORT ROYAL, ROATAN, HONDURAS

Fort Morgan Cay is a 40-acre private island located off the coast of Roatan, the largest of the Honduran Bay Islands. The island is right on the breathtaking Mesoamerican reef — the world’s second largest barrier reef — and forms part of the protected Roatan Marine Park, home to sea turtles, stingrays, nurse sharks and numerous species of fish. Roatan is known for its world-class snorkelling and scuba diving, as well as three white-sand beaches, the ruins of 280-year-old Fort George, stunning mangroves and a whole host of amenities.

Fort Morgan Cay hosts groups of 10 to 20 guests for an all-inclusive private island experience. Only one group at a time is hosted, meaning that the group has exclusive and private use of the entire island during their stay. Guests stay in the seven-bedroom lodge and each bedroom has an en-suite bathroom and daily maid service. Guests also have access to all facilities including the bar and pool, 24 hours a day. All food is prepared by a local chef with the freshest local ingredients and is served family-style.

Guests celebrating a special occasion will receive assistance in planning their private beach party, with the option of adding additional services like a personalised cake, floral arrangements and sand sculpture as well as a fire dancer show, fireworks display, bartender and photographer.

Fort Morgan Cay has a freshwater swimming pool and numerous recreational activities are available to guests such as a daily snorkelling trip by boat, scuba diving and kiteboarding, as well as scuba diving certification and kiteboarding lessons for beginners. Recreational equipment such as snorkel gear, kayaks, paddleboards, beach toys, fishing gear, pool floats, and games such as badminton, volleyball, cornhole and bocce ball are available for guests to use, too.

The team at the lodge can arrange activities such as a catamaran tour, a local village tour by boat, sunset cruises, fishing excursions, a snorkelling trip to Pigeon Cay and a Roatan tour to experience attractions such as monkeys, sloths and zip-lining. A massage therapist can also be scheduled, with treatments taking place on the serene seaside palapa.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- A private island for small groups
- In-house food and drink provided
- Excursions and activities on request

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Diving and snorkelling
- Sailing
- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Outdoor dining

#### GET IN TOUCH

[fortmorgancay.com](https://fortmorgancay.com)  
T: +1 757 709 2639  
E: [reservataions@fortmorgancay.com](mailto:reservataions@fortmorgancay.com)

**DON'T MISS** Take a boat trip to explore the local villages and see authentic island life





# The Resort at Marble Hill

## ROATAN, HONDURAS

Located in the heart of Roatan, Bay Islands, The Resort at Marble Hill offers an unparalleled blend of luxury and adventure, set against the backdrop of Roatan's breathtaking natural beauty. This exclusive resort promises an escape to a world where crystal-clear waters, white sand beaches and lush landscapes meet unparalleled scuba diving and an array of top-tier amenities.

Dining at The Resort at Marble Hill is a celebration of the senses, with each meal crafted to reflect the rich bounty of the surroundings. The on-site creamery, brewery and production farm embody the resort's commitment to true farm-to-table cuisine, offering guests fresh, locally sourced ingredients in every dish. From the freshest dairy products crafted in the creamery to innovative brews from the full craft brewery, the various dining options cater to every palate. The distillery on-site complements your dining experience with artisan spirits, making every meal an unforgettable part of your stay.

Recognised as a five-star PADI Dive Resort, Marble Hill is the gateway to some of the most spectacular diving sites in the world, including the

region's second-largest barrier reef. With more than 30 dive sites to explore, the resort caters to both novice and experienced divers. The all-inclusive daily dive packages, led by expert guides, ensure a personalised and safe underwater journey. Dive into the crystal-clear waters of Roatan and discover a hidden world of vibrant marine life and pristine coral reefs, making for an unparalleled adventure beneath the waves.

Beyond diving, The Resort at Marble Hill offers a plethora of activities designed to entertain and relax. The secluded beach provides the perfect backdrop for sunbathing and swimming, while off-site activities, including zip-lining, ATV tours and guided hikes, promise adventure and excitement as you explore everything Roatan has to offer.

Experience the rhythm of the island with live music, engage in cheese and butter-making classes, or indulge in the tranquillity of in-room spa services. With panoramic ocean-view suites and exclusive amenities like private infinity pools, your stay at Marble Hill is guaranteed to be as serene as it's exhilarating.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Five-star PADI Dive Resort
- Dive shop on-site
- Craft brewery
- Creamery and dairy farm
- Farm-to-table dining
- Spa services

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- ATV tours
- Zip-lining
- Scuba diving
- Snorkelling
- Fishing

#### GET IN TOUCH

[marblehillroatan.com](http://marblehillroatan.com)

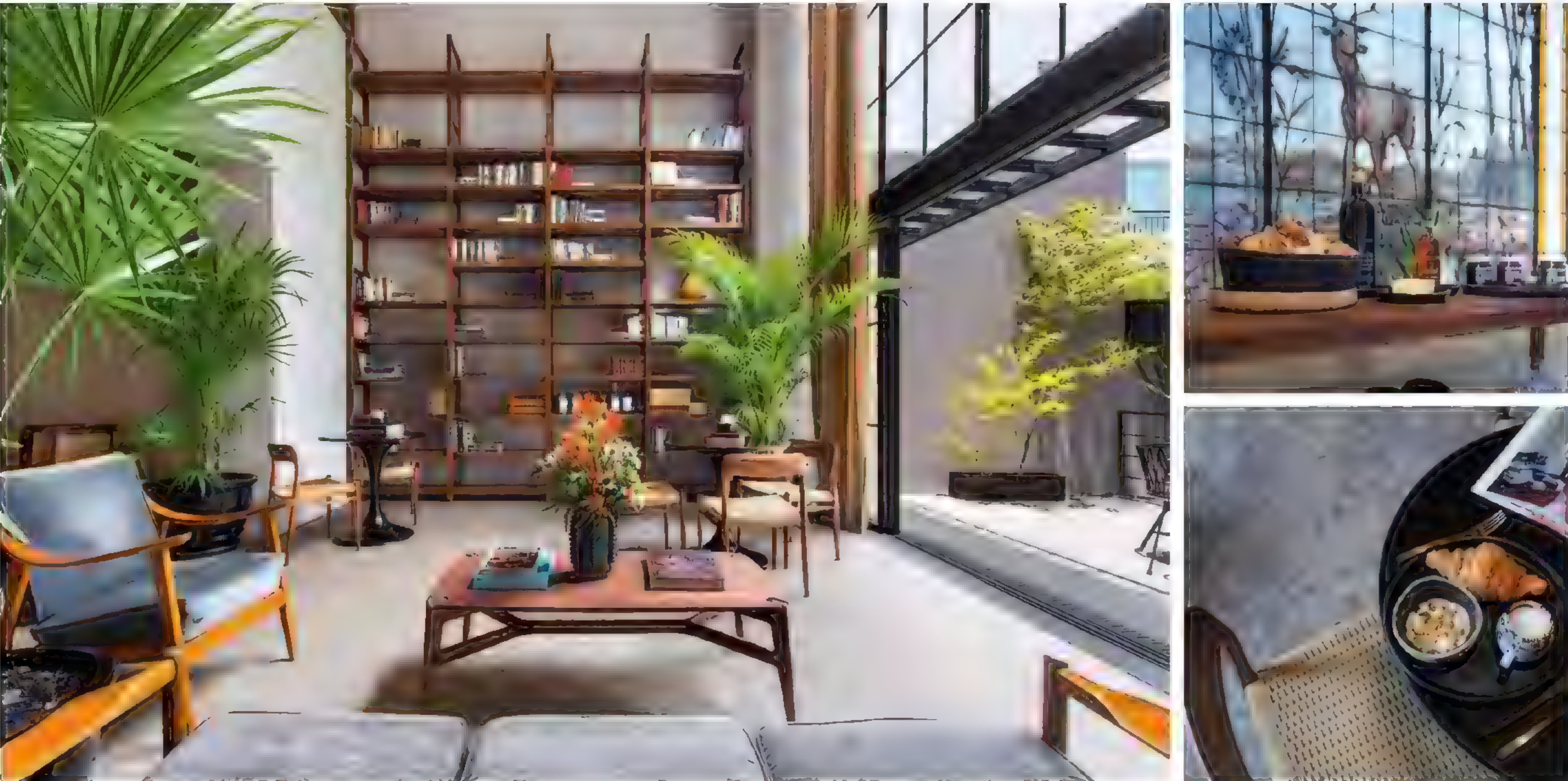
T: +1-866 672 5455 /

+504 8789 0997 (WhatsApp)

E: [hc@marblehillroatan.com](mailto:hc@marblehillroatan.com)

**DON'T MISS** Set off on an incredible dive and snorkel trip to Pigeon Cay, complete with a mangrove tour and lunch on a private cay





# Casa9

## MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

Dating back to 1910, Casa9 Condesa was once an old Mexican *casona* (large house) before it became a four-bed luxury hotel. Reimagined by architects Rafael Rivera and Javier Claveri, its interiors combine authentic Mexican style with a modern twist, creating an elegant yet cosy environment.

Located in Mexico City, the hotel is surrounded by a vibrant cultural atmosphere, giving ample opportunity to explore and enjoy. Situated right in the heart of the city’s culinary, art and fashion scenes, guests will gain insights into what makes Mexico City one of the world’s most fascinating cities.

Found in the centre of the bustling city, Casa9 Condesa is one of the first hotels in the area to encompass both luxury hotel and bed and breakfast vibes, creating an unmatched, friendly service for guests, which allows staff to anticipate every visitor’s individual needs.

The property also offers a number of immersive experiences that showcase some of the best of what the city has to offer. These include authentic Mexican cooking classes that start with a visit to the local markets before ending up in the kitchen of

chef Luis Alfonso Garduño. There are also mezcal tastings, mixology masterclasses and walking tours of the city.

For 2024, Casa9 has developed a new concept that aims to disrupt the traditional definitions of hospitality once again, with Casa9 Zócalo. The new hotel is also located in the heart of Mexico City, in the oldest inhabited family home in the capital. Originally built in 1640, the hotel’s setting allows visitors to engage in Mexican culture and learn all about the country’s history.

Built on the former site of the ceremonial temple for the Mexica deity Tezcatlipoca, the hotel underwent an extensive conservation process that restored almost all of its original structure. Teams of stonemasons, carpenters and blacksmiths participated in the restoration, guided by a team of masters and restorers whose names are etched on the central patio’s stone. It’s one of the few buildings from the 17th century that’s kept a lot of its previous features, making it an unforgettable place for travellers to base themselves before becoming immersed in Mexican culture.

### Need to know

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Authentic Mexican cooking classes
- Roma and Condesa taco tour
- Mezcal tasting
- Mezcal mixology masterclass
- Cacao ceremony
- Maize master class
- The Pulque Tradition (history and tasting)
- Private yoga class
- Meditation class

#### KEY TREATMENTS

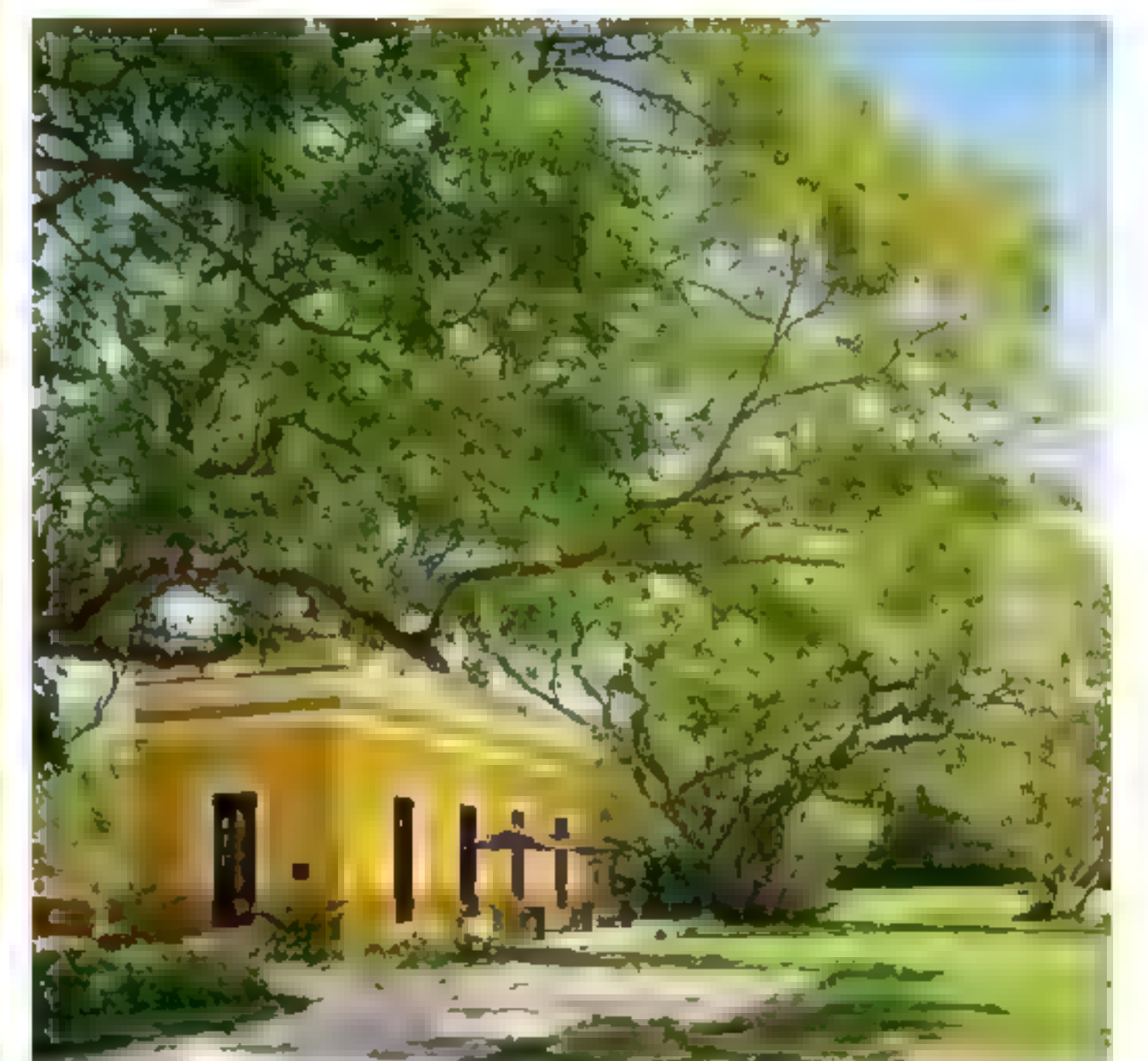
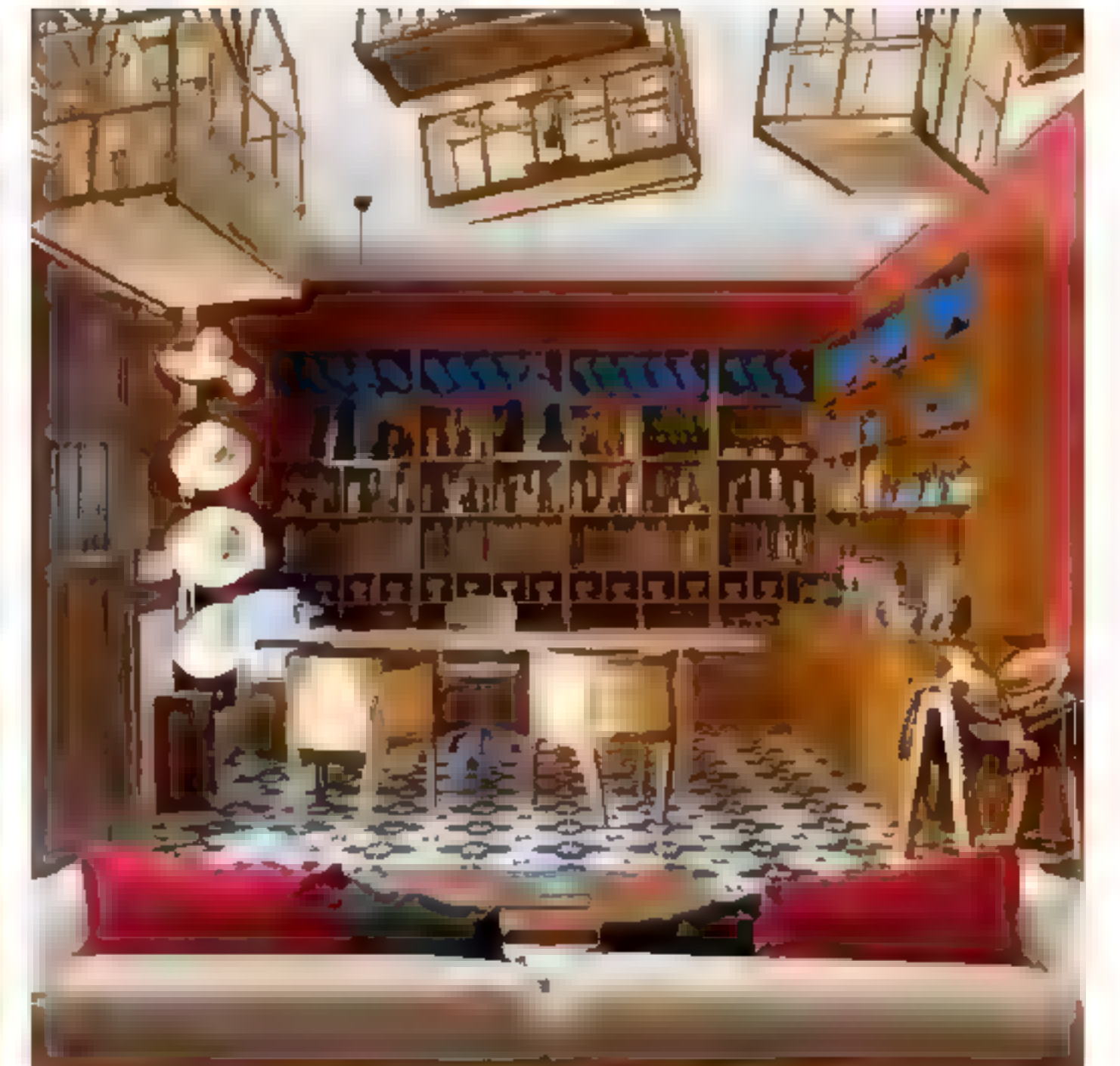
- Personalised facials
- Sports massage
- Relaxing massage
- Manicure and pedicure

#### GET IN TOUCH

[casa9hotel.com](https://casa9hotel.com)  
T: +52 55 8101 8881 / +52 55 1004 6773  
E: [reservations@casa9hotel.com](mailto:reservations@casa9hotel.com)

**DON’T MISS** Visit the local food markets and learn how to cook traditional Mexican dishes with chef Luis Alfonso Garduño





# Chablé Yucatán

## YUCATÁN, MEXICO

There's a sense of mysticism and heritage surrounding this former hacienda, with its meticulously restored 19th-century Main House serving as the focal point of the property. Visitors passing through the ancient gates and taking long walks around the gardens will feel the fusion of past, present and future throughout the grounds.

Chablé Yucatán's mission to 'redefine wellness' extends beyond the hotel's one-of-a-kind spa and can be found in every corner of the exquisite space. This ethos is embedded in the property's DNA, from the architecture and design to experiences such as cooking classes, tastings, holistic ceremonies and on-site activities amid nature.

Guests are invited to a journey of discovery, where ancient traditions intertwine seamlessly with modern indulgences. The spa is located near a cenote and offers rejuvenating treatments rooted in Mayan healing practices, providing a truly immersive wellness experience. Visitors can also partake in traditional temazcal ceremonies, a ritual believed to cleanse the mind, body and soul. Culinary enthusiasts are treated to a gastronomic

adventure unlike any other, with the hotel's restaurant, Ixi'im, showcasing the vibrant flavours of Yucatecan cuisine under the stewardship of Jorge Vallejo, one of Mexico's leading chefs. From savoury *cochinita pibil* (barbecued pork) to refreshing *ceviches* (raw fish) made with locally sourced ingredients, each dish is a celebration of the region's diverse culinary heritage and Mexican traditions.

For those seeking inspiration, Chablé Yucatán offers a plethora of activities that enable guests to explore the natural wonders of the surrounding landscape. Whether it's exploring the grandness of the property, contemplating nature or embarking on guided jungle treks, there's no shortage of opportunities to connect with the breathtaking beauty of the Yucatán.

But perhaps what sets Chablé Yucatán apart most is its commitment to sustainability and preserving the local ecosystem. From its eco-friendly architecture to supporting local artisans and producers, the hotel is dedicated to protecting the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the region for generations to come.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Restored 19th-century Main House
- Spa with nearby cenote
- Restaurant specialising in Yucatecan cuisine

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Meliponario endemic bee and honey ceremony
- Casita Maya traditional culinary experience
- Green Route through tropical pathways

#### GET IN TOUCH

[chableyucatan.com](http://chableyucatan.com)

T: +52 (55) 4161 4262

E: [reservations@chableyucatan.com](mailto:reservations@chableyucatan.com)

**DON'T MISS** The ruins of Uxmal provide a stirring reminder of the incredible architectural skill of the ancient Maya civilisation





# Hilton Cancun Mar Caribe All-Inclusive Resort

## CANCUN, MEXICO

Situated between the sun-drenched beaches of Cancun and the pristine waters of Nichupté Lagoon, Hilton Cancun Mar Caribe All-Inclusive Resort is a place offering relaxation and fun, where the immersive presence of water takes centre stage.

Travellers can grab some snorkelling gear and embark on an underwater adventure, discovering the vibrant marine life just beneath the surface, or simply sink their toes into the soft Caribbean sands.

At this inspiring and welcoming beachfront retreat, guests can explore an array of experiences including al fresco dining, water-focused adventures or a visit to nearby Mayan temples to explore the rich cultural history of the surrounding Riviera Maya. They can also enjoy breathtaking sunset views over the lagoon while exploring delicious and diverse dining options from 12 exciting restaurants and bars, including four speciality restaurants, international buffets and poolside snacks.

Savour the laid-back ambience at this beachside haven while sipping on a tropical cocktail, before

taking a dip in one of 13 pools or heading to the spa or adults-only areas. There's also water-themed fun designed just for kids, providing a perfect setting to connect and enjoy a sunny day surrounded by water.

When it's time to truly unwind, guests can slip into the embrace of warm water in the outdoor hydrotherapy area or forget about the outside world while relaxing in the full-service spa.

Attention to comfort is apparent in the resort's 540 spacious rooms, from which guests can contemplate the golden hues of the Caribbean sun from their private terraces or balconies, and let the sound of the waves serve as background music for serene moments.

Enclave guests enjoy special benefits including dedicated pools, loungers and Bali beds, as well as an exclusive beachfront area. These guests also have access to private check-in and check-out.

Hilton Cancun Mar Caribe All-Inclusive Resort's personalised service, thoughtful amenities and exceptional experiences create a gracious invitation to savour the joys of being truly present.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 12 all-inclusive restaurants and bars
- 24-hour in-room dining
- Spa with an outdoor hydrotherapy circuit
- 24/7 fitness centre
- 13 pools, including a kids' waterpark

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Kids' and teens' clubs
- Entertainment programming
- Non-motorised watersports
- Tour and watersports desks

#### GET IN TOUCH

[hilton.com/cancunmarcaribe](https://hilton.com/cancunmarcaribe)  
T: +52 998 689 2660  
E: [cunmc\\_hotel@hilton.com](mailto:cunmc_hotel@hilton.com)

**DON'T MISS** Complete your all-inclusive stay with a live cooking show and six-course dinner at a teppanyaki table at Noriku





# The Ritz-Carlton, Mexico City

## MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

The Ritz-Carlton, Mexico City represents a looking glass into Mexico's cultural heritage as well as a vision of the future for this ever-evolving city.

Rising 58 storeys above Chapultepec Park, The Ritz-Carlton, Mexico City offers views of the entire capital, from historic Chapultepec Forest all the way to vibrant Paseo de la Reforma. This modern downtown hotel takes inspiration from Mexican traditions and landscapes to create a space where guests can reconnect and find themselves anew. From delicious authentic Mexican cuisine to the indigenous botanicals of its spa treatments, every detail — down to the stonework in the lobby — has been designed to pique curiosity.

Modern and luxurious design elements create a sense of glamour and elegance. Most Standard rooms offer a terrace space, inviting guests to experience the city from a new perspective. Bathrooms feature floor-to-ceiling Carrara marble, dual sinks and separate bathtubs and showers.

The Spa at The Ritz-Carlton, Mexico City was inspired by the surrealists who were enchanted by the spiritual power of nature. The dramatic entrance

to the spa showcases elements of water, fire and smoke to calm and cleanse the mind body and soul.

The hotel's floor-to-ceiling windows offer incredible views, while ancient folklore and storytelling traditions are brought to life throughout the hotel's design. Its contemporary design stems from Mexico City's profound influence on the surrealist art movement, which moved away from traditional and colonial art and design.

Smoke is a central design motif and is as a constant inspiration throughout the hotel. In ancient Mexican culture, smoke was present in their most sacred ceremonies as a cleansing and renewing element. The front desk and flooring stone are designed to look like moving smoke, while smoky art installations promote the same sense of cleansing and renewal. Mexican artist Emilio Chapela's 3D wall artwork, The Expansive Universe, was inspired by the noise of Mexico City translated into sound waves.

The Ritz-Carlton, Mexico City represents a looking glass into the capital's enchanting past, present and future.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Residences
- Suites
- Restaurant and bar
- Spa
- Ballrooms
- Club Lounge

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Private Museum Tours
- Transportation
- Chapultepec Park

#### KEY TREATMENTS

- Couples' massages
- Massages
- Separate men and women's lounges
- Steam room

#### GET IN TOUCH

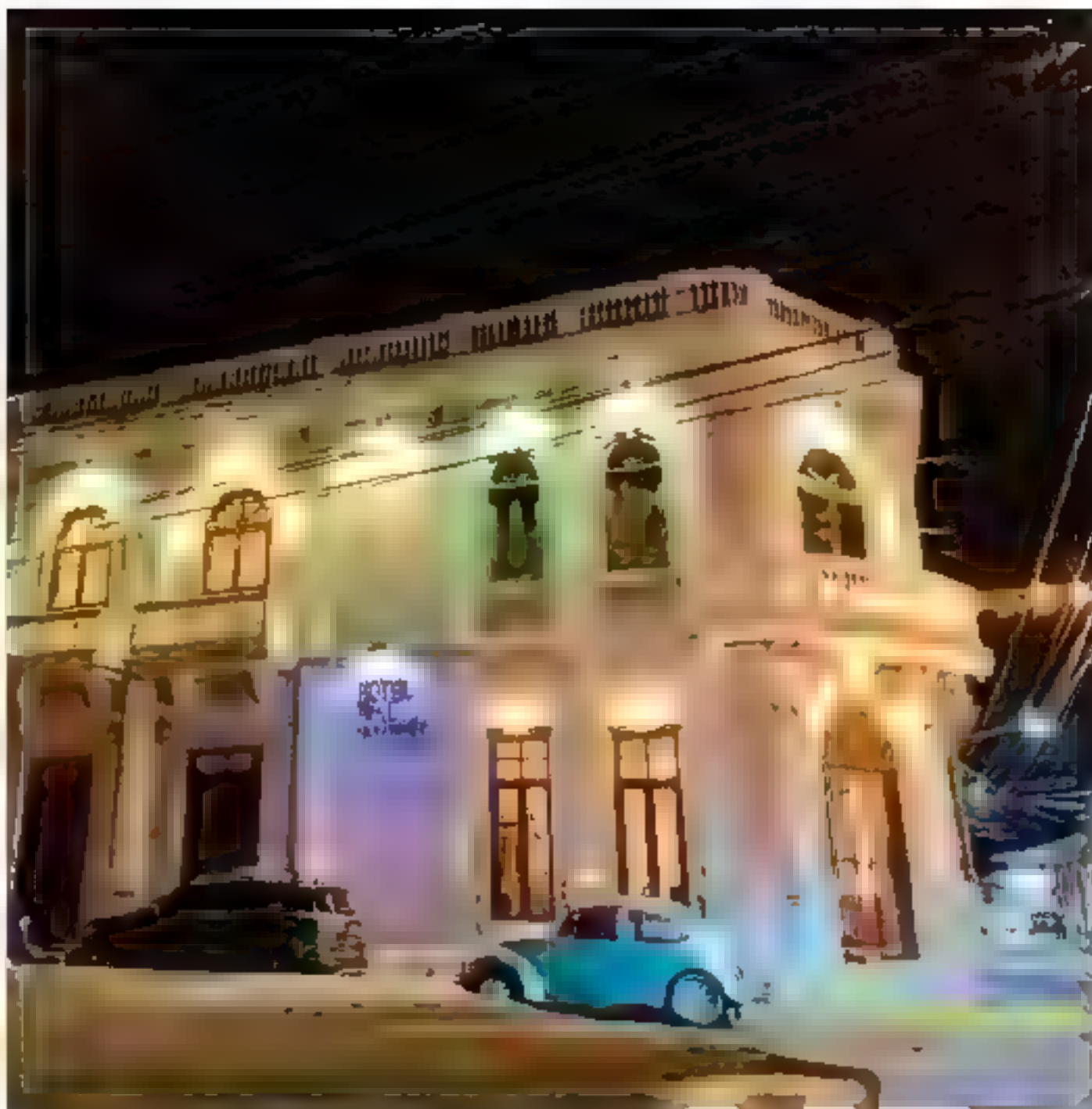
[ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/mexr-the-ritz-carlton-mexico-city](https://ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/mexr-the-ritz-carlton-mexico-city)

T: +52 552 734 3507

E: [rc.mexrz.reservations@marriott.com](mailto:rc.mexrz.reservations@marriott.com)

**DON'T MISS** Head to the Sky Bar on the 38th floor to enjoy spectacular sunset views while sipping the hotel's signature Pasaje cocktail





# Hotel Real La Merced

## GRANADA, NICARAGUA

Welcome to Hotel Real La Merced, which aims to provide guests with an unforgettable experience in the historic city of Granada in Nicaragua. With more than 500 years of cultural richness, delectable cuisine and countless attractions to explore, Granada is bustling with activities this year in celebration of its half a millennium of heritage.

Step into the hotel's meticulously decorated spaces adorned with antique furniture lovingly restored to their former glory. The ceilings feature certified antique wood, while the doors faithfully replicate those of the original mansion. The decor seamlessly blends minimalist elegance with colonial charm, inviting guests to feel at home while basking in the grandeur of a true Granada mansion.

The hotel is housed in an authentic colonial mansion that dates back to the late 1800s and was meticulously restored in 2012 to preserve its original architectural charm. Owned and operated by proud Nicaraguans, their deep appreciation for their roots and culture is evident in every aspect of the hotel.

Referred to affectionately as 'Casa Zampieri' or 'Casa del Cesar' by locals, the establishment proudly

retains its rich history, including the renowned pink marble staircase crafted by the esteemed Italian architect Mario Favilli some 90 years ago. And right at the heart of the hotel lies Granada's first-ever pool, a historic gem surrounded by a small garden.

The service here is warm, genuine and deeply human, with staff welcoming guests as if they're an extension of the family and treating them with the utmost respect and care.

The 18 luxurious rooms are designed for double occupancy. There are a variety of options, including Junior Suites with balcony views of the city's iconic landmarks or the cosy standard rooms, both types equipped with all the modern amenities.

Be sure to visit Café La Merced for exquisite breakfasts and lunches crafted from fresh and locally sourced ingredients. With breathtaking views of Iglesia La Merced, with its huge bell tower, it's a dining experience not to be missed. Sample the amazing coffee, grown just 30 minutes away at Finca Miravalle on the slopes of the Mombacho volcano, and taste the essence of Nicaraguan flavour in every sip.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Historical pool
- Room service
- Free wi-fi
- Air-conditioning
- Cafe

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

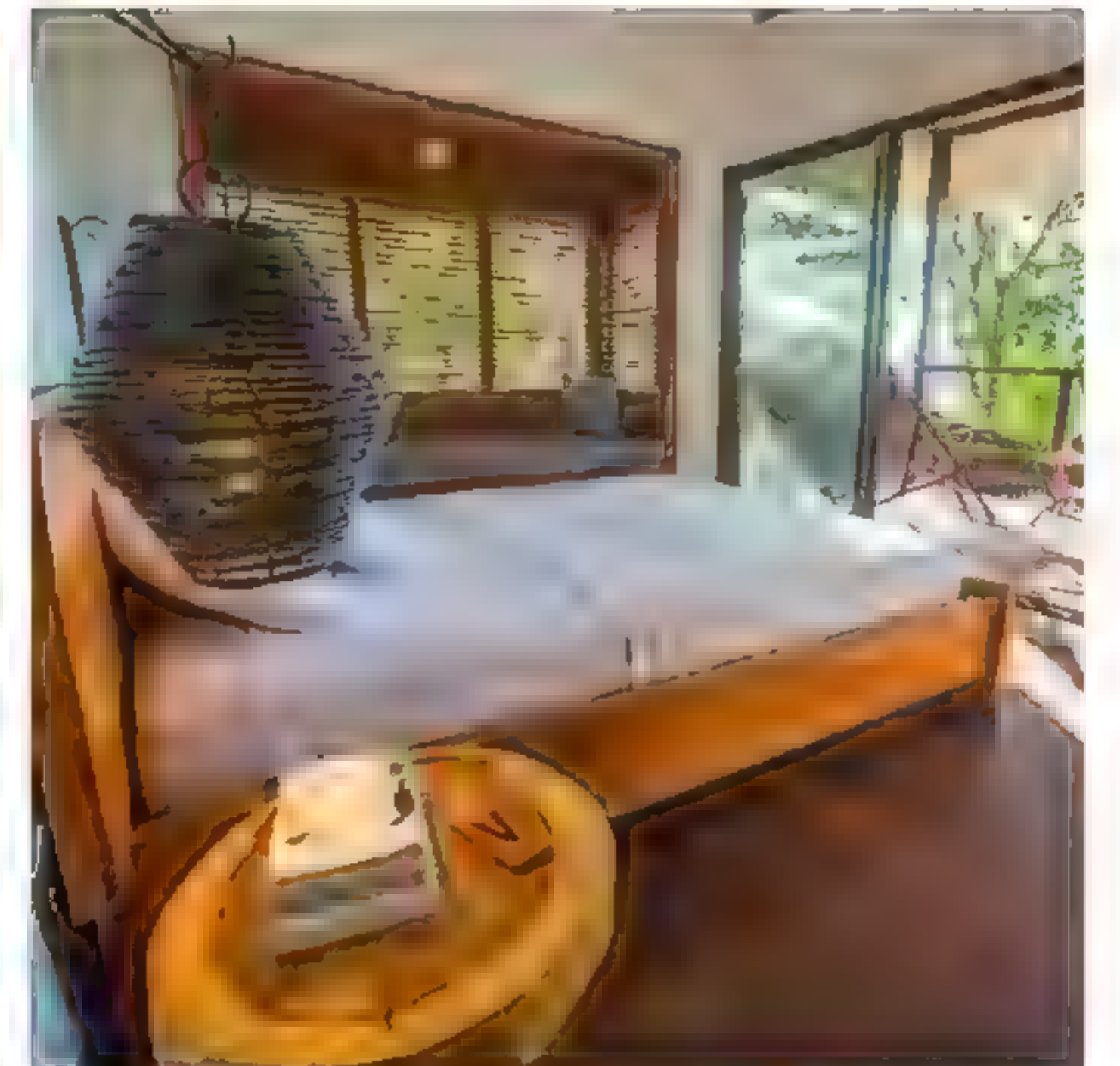
- History tours
- Free walking tours
- Coffee tours
- Kayaking
- Horse-riding tours
- Chocolate tours

#### GET IN TOUCH

[hotelrealamerced.com](https://www.hotelrealamerced.com)  
T: +505 7530 8500 (WhatsApp) /  
+505 2552 2824  
E: [info@hotelrealamerced.com](mailto:info@hotelrealamerced.com)

**DON'T MISS** Witness breathtaking sunsets with a drink in hand during magic hour looking over towards Iglesia La Merced's bell tower





# Verdad Nicaragua Hotel & Retreat

## SAN JUAN DEL SUR, NICARAGUA

Verdad Nicaragua Hotel & Retreat was built with an eye on creating spaces that enable guests to take in the stunning beauty of this hillside property. Visitors can expect all the comfort, quality and excellence of a high-end resort, without the formality. As a small boutique hotel with just five casitas and two rooms, Verdad serves as an extraordinary home away from home on the untouched Southern Pacific coast.

The hotel is mindful of its environmental impact, providing carbon-filtered water and 100% solar-powered electricity. Verdad is nestled on a hillside overlooking the secluded beach of Escameca Grande on Nicaragua's Emerald Coast, where guests can enjoy year-round surfing, shaded lounge chairs, hammocks and a beach bar/restaurant.

The surrounding tropical forest is home to a colourful array of flora, fauna and wildlife, while the hillside perch affords striking, expansive views across the valley to the open sea. Guests share this magical setting with howler monkeys, reptiles of all shapes and sizes, four species of sea turtles (and a turtle sanctuary), as well as a diverse population of

birds, creating an animal watchers' paradise. The resort is about 20 minutes' south of San Juan del Sur, a small port town and surfing hub, where guests can stroll along the streets, dine at a beachfront restaurant, sip beer at a local brewery, savour some gelato or just browse the shops.

Guests enjoy 24-hour use of the pool and several lounge areas with ample sun and shade, as well as an honour bar stocked with drinks and snacks. There's also an open-air yoga and fitness studio with stunning views of the ocean and surrounding valley. Yoga mats, blocks and straps are provided, as well as kettlebells, TRX, jump ropes, medicine balls, Bosu and boxing gloves/pads. On-site massages are also on offer. Customised surfing packages are available, including lessons and board rental. Verdad is also available for buyouts — take over the entire hotel for friends and family and make it your own.

Bedsheets are pure cotton, while luxury toiletries — locally made with natural ingredients — are provided in the bathrooms. There's also daily housekeeping, along with 24-hour front desk and concierge service.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- 24-hour self-service bar
- Complimentary breakfast
- Daily housekeeping
- 24-hour concierge
- Yoga & functional fitness studio
- Surf school
- On-site massages

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Year-round surfing
- Yoga
- Fitness
- ATV and hiking tours
- Horse-riding
- Catamaran sailing
- Snorkelling
- Seasonal waterfall hike
- Fishing

### GET IN TOUCH

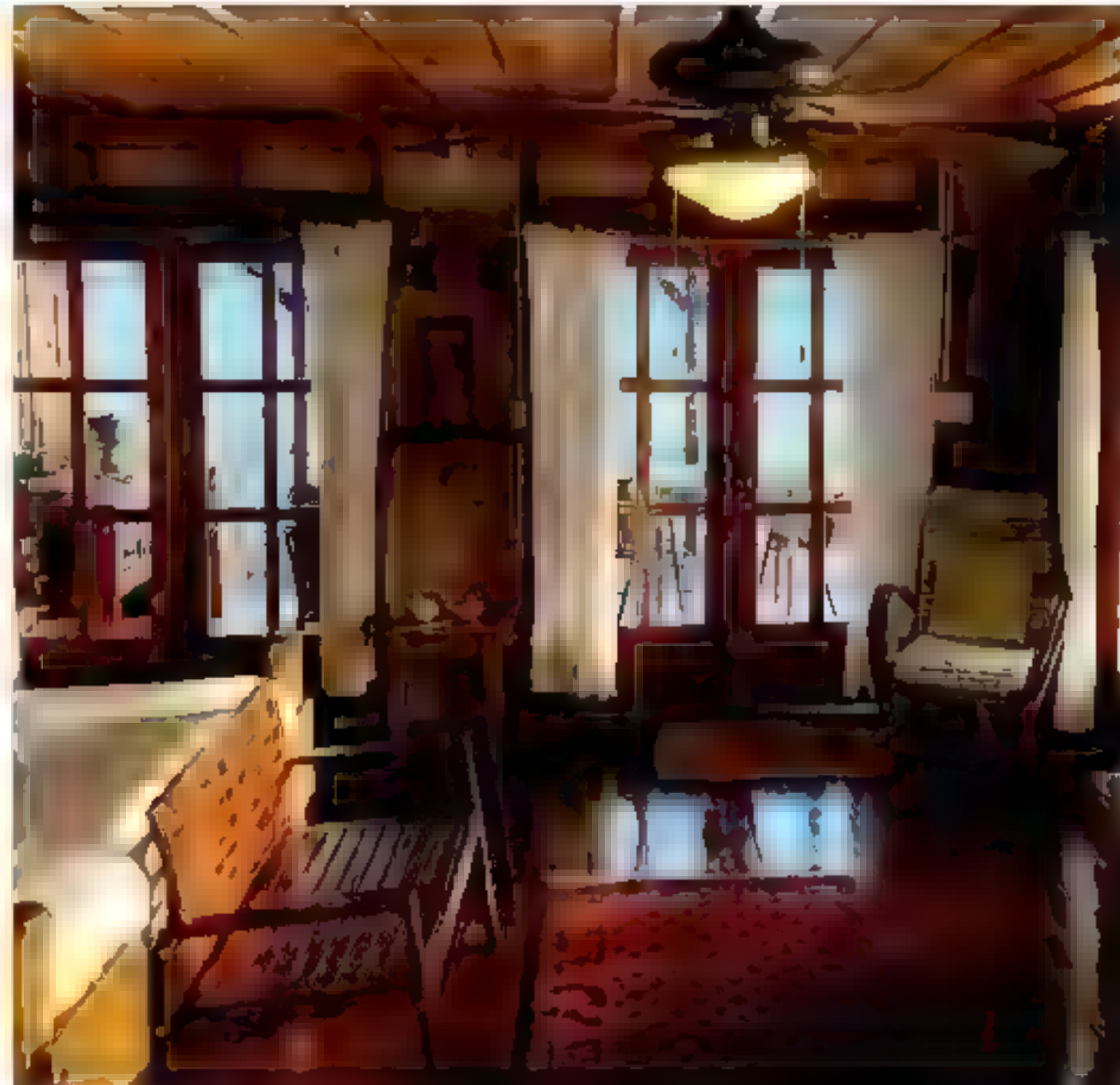
[verdadnicaragua.com](http://verdadnicaragua.com)

T: +505 7658 5004

E: [info@verdadnicaragua.com](mailto:info@verdadnicaragua.com)

**DON'T MISS** Spend an evening stargazing at Playa Escameca with a crackling beach bonfire and after-dinner drinks





# Casa Acuario Boutique Hotel

## BOCAS DEL TORO, PANAMA

Built in traditional Caribbean architecture, Casa Acuario (meaning Aquarium House) is a luxury boutique hotel that’s far from mainstream. The hotel is situated on a platform that juts out over the sparkling Caribbean Sea, enabling guests to explore the vibrant surrounding marine life from the moment they arrive.

The remodelled hotel features upscale amenities and modern comforts, while also providing tons of charming details. From 100% sustainable sheets and towels to locally made reef-safe soap, low-lit lanterns and white noise machines, guests will find thoughtful touches that consider both their experience and the environment. Guests are advised to book in advance as there are only four spacious rooms available, each equipped with a kitchenette, hardwood floors and French doors that open up to a private patio.

Treat yourself to an in-room massage or explore the underwater sanctuary with snorkel gear, kayaks and paddleboards, all provided by the hotel, or relax in a hammock while sipping on a freshly made tropical cocktail while watching the

boats glide by as pelicans dive into the sparkling waters. Fall asleep while listening to the soothing sounds of the ocean below and wake up to a delicious selection of freshly prepared breakfast options from the on-site breakfast restaurant and espresso bar.

For guests looking to celebrate a special occasion, choose one of the handcrafted breakfast cocktails to get your day going. Ingredients are sourced locally, including organic eggs delivered weekly by canoe from a family farm on a neighbouring island. All coconuts come directly from Isla Carenero, while fruit and vegetables come from local Indigenous communities.

Whether you’re travelling with family, are on your honeymoon or a surf vacation with friends, you’re sure to have the trip of a lifetime.

From award-winning chefs and funky island bars to scuba diving and some of the best surf breaks in the Caribbean, the tiny palm tree-lined Isla Carenero has it all. Here, time slows to a crawl, and guests are able to soak in all the goodness this unique hotel has to offer.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Four guest rooms
- Private terraces
- Kitchenette, Smart TV and white noise machines
- Over-water sundeck
- Breakfast restaurant
- Espresso bar
- Complimentary kayaks, paddleboards and snorkelling gear

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

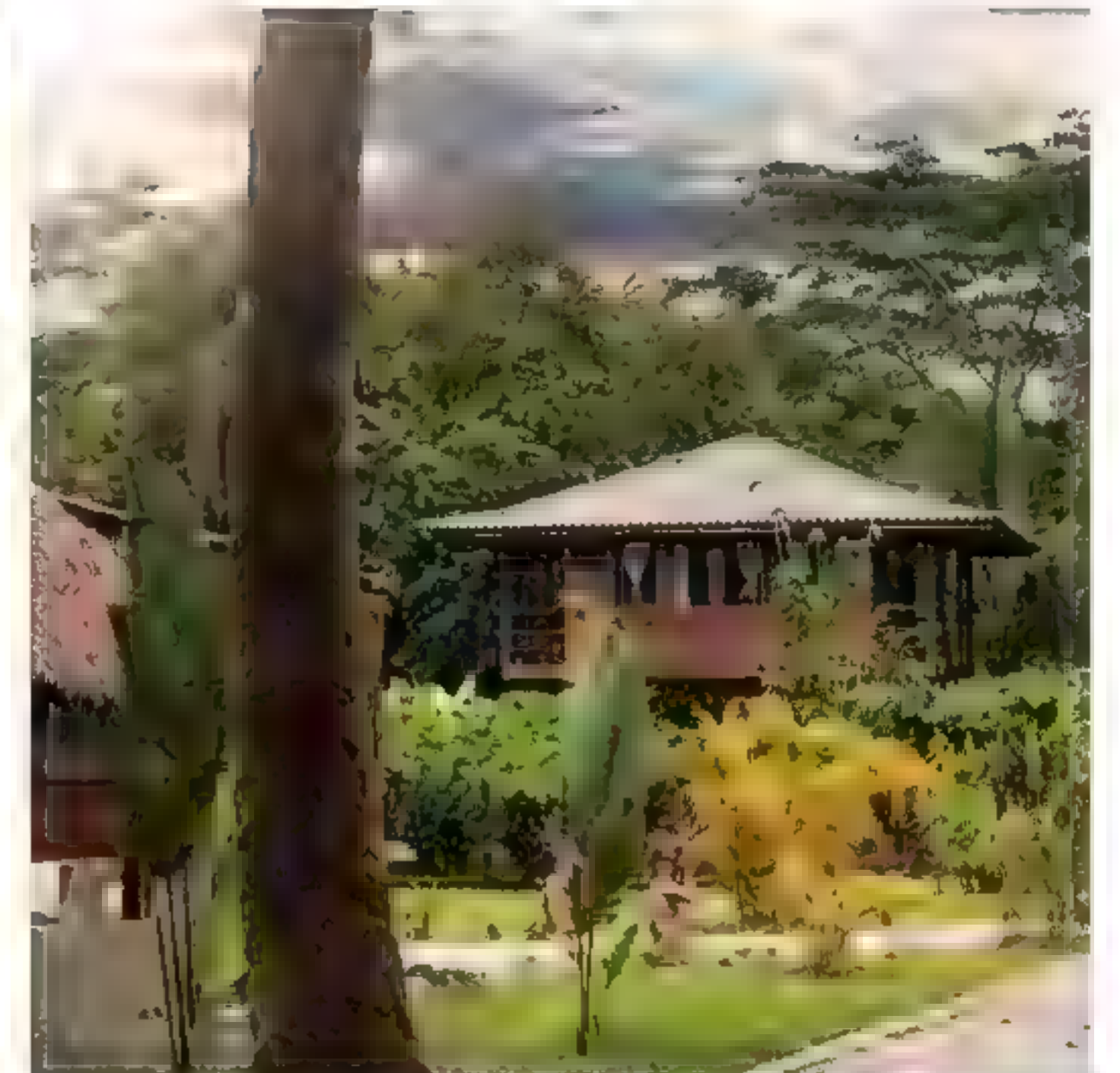
- Surfing
- Snorkelling and diving
- Sailing
- Chocolate-making classes
- Jungle tours
- Private boat tours to outer islands

#### GET IN TOUCH

[casaacuuario.com](http://casaacuuario.com)  
T: +507 6791 4323  
E: [info@casaacuuario.com](mailto:info@casaacuuario.com)

**DON'T MISS** Set off on a private boat tour to explore the outer islands and pristine coral reefs teeming with colourful marine life





# Catalina's Hideaway

## SANTA CATALINA, PANAMA

Catalina's Hideaway is an eco-conscious luxury boutique hotel with a laid-back atmosphere. In 2013, Canadian owners Ryan Somes and Anthea Stanley left their high-profile finance jobs in Toronto to build their dream hotel on the Pacific Coast of Panama. As adventure-seekers, avid travellers and music-lovers, it's immediately apparent that they put their hearts and souls into every aspect of the hotel.

The lavish casitas and treehouses are situated on 2.5 acres of secluded jungle-fringed coastline. There are 11 rooms with five different types for guests to choose from. The hotel can comfortably accommodate families and groups — either in the spacious beachfront and garden casitas (complete with loft spaces), in the luxurious jungle treehouses, or in the cosy 'Bellwoods Inn', which is comprised of four private rooms with patios overlooking a freshwater pond. Many of the rooms feature beautiful outdoor garden showers and eclectic interiors.

Guests can enjoy daily yoga classes atop the stunning beachfront deck, stand up

paddleboarding, volleyball, horseback riding, mangrove tours and much more, as well as a clubhouse full of books and games.

Dining in the Catalina's Hideaway open-air beachfront restaurant and bar, Sobremesa is an unforgettable experience. The cuisine embraces a local and sustainable philosophy, with fresh options for all preferences. Visitors can sip on a delicious signature cocktail or savour a glass of wine from the extensive wine list.

With over 50 solar panels, greywater reuse, organic soaps and a recycling program, the hotel utilises sophisticated sustainability practices.

Catalina's Hideaway is approximately 15 minutes from famous surf and diving town Santa Catalina, which is also a popular access point to Coiba National Park. Connected to the Galapagos and Cocos Islands, Coiba is a sprawling marine reserve where, depending on the season, whale sharks, humpbacks, pilot whales, and many other animals can be spotted. Dolphins and rays can often be seen breaching the water en route to one of the 38 pristine islands.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Outdoor showers
- King-size beds
- Separate sleep loft for kids
- Hammocks
- Stargazing platform
- More than 10 original Elise Goodhoofd artworks

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Volleyball court
- Yoga
- Standup paddleboarding
- Horseback riding
- Massage treatments
- Clubhouse/library
- Boardgames/video games
- Stargazing
- Old growth mangrove tours

### GET IN TOUCH

[catalinashideaway.com](http://catalinashideaway.com)

T: +507 6602 2274

E: [info@catalinashideaway.com](mailto:info@catalinashideaway.com)

**DON'T MISS** Enjoy a day trip to the famous Coiba National Park to visit paradisiacal islands and spot breathtaking marine life





# JW Marriott Panama

## PUNTA PACÍFICA, PANAMA

Indulge in an extraordinary escape at JW Marriott Panama, a beacon of timeless luxury perched in the heart of Punta Pacífica, Panama City. This high-rise haven not only offers a wealth of world-class amenities, but also provides seamless access to the bustling businesses, shopping and entertainment in the vibrant financial district.

Every facet of the property embodies unparalleled opulence, from the elegantly appointed rooms to the sophisticated ambience of the Cava15 cocktail bar and the gastronomic haven, MASI. Meanwhile, the captivating infinity pool offers panoramic views of the Bay of Panama and the bustling activity of ships awaiting passage through the iconic Panama Canal.

Retire to the lavish rooms, adorned with luxury bedding and coastal-inspired decor. Savour authentic Panamanian flavours at the exclusive MASI restaurant, culminating each day with a private balcony rendezvous, accompanied by the effervescent effusion of a champagne bottle popping open against the backdrop of a captivating sunset.

Blessed with exceptional airline connectivity, Panama is an ideal destination for events, whether intimate affairs or grand spectacles. The city's proximity to Tocumen International Airport ensures swift connectivity, enabling guests to make their way from the airport to the hotel within 20 minutes.

Furthermore, the city is also ripe with cultural gems, including the historic district, museums and the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center, which provides guests with an immersive journey through Panama's rich history and natural splendour.

The hotel offers an array of event spaces for gatherings of all scales, large or small. From the expansive convention centre accommodating as many as 1,600 guests to the chic Grand Pacific Hall with a capacity for up to 800 attendees, these venues are perfect for crafting distinctive and memorable experiences.

Guests are invited to explore the boundless possibilities that JW Marriott Panama has to offer; a space where luxury transcends expectation and every moment resonates with timeless elegance.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Ocean Sun Casino
- MASI Restaurant
- Panaviera rooftop bar
- Azul Restaurant
- Diverse culinary experiences
- Two infinity pools

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- San Blas Islands tour
- Panama Canal tour
- Monkey Island tour
- Taboga and Contadora Island tour

#### GET IN TOUCH

[marriott.com/es/hotels/ptymj-jw-marriott-panama](https://marriott.com/es/hotels/ptymj-jw-marriott-panama)  
T: +507 215 8800  
E: [jwpanama.reservations@marriott.com](mailto:jwpanama.reservations@marriott.com)

**DON'T MISS** Unwind in style at JW Marriott Panama. Energise the body at the state-of-the-art gym and rejuvenate at the luxurious spa





# Alpaca Expeditions

## PERU

Nestled amid the majestic Andes Mountains in Peru lies a historical gem shrouded in mystery and beauty — the Inca Trail. This ancient pathway, once traversed by the mighty Inca civilisation, offers modern-day adventurers a chance to immerse themselves in breathtaking landscapes and rich cultural heritage.

Stretching over 26 miles and reaching elevations of over 4,000 meters, the Inca Trail weaves its way through diverse ecosystems, from lush cloud forests to rugged mountain passes. Along the trail, hikers encounter a series of ancient ruins, including the awe-inspiring Machu Picchu, the crowning jewel of the Inca civilisation.

While the classic Inca Trail to Machu Picchu may steal the spotlight, Peru's Andean region boasts a treasure trove of alternative trekking routes waiting to be discovered. The Andes are a tapestry woven with an extraordinary variety of landscapes, each more stunning than the last. Towering snow-capped peaks pierce the sky, their jagged silhouettes tracing the horizon with dramatic flair. Glacial lakes shimmer like sapphires amid emerald-green valleys,

while cascading waterfalls carve ribbons of silver through lush forests. These lesser-known trails offer adventurous hikers a chance to explore remote landscapes, encounter vibrant cultures, and forge unforgettable memories away from the crowds and still end at the amazing Machu Picchu.

What sets Alpaca Expeditions apart is its dedication to providing unparalleled service and unforgettable experiences for its guests. From expertly crafted itineraries to gourmet meals prepared by skilled chefs, every aspect of the journey is meticulously planned to ensure maximum comfort and enjoyment. Central to Alpaca Expeditions' ethos is a commitment to minimising its environmental footprint and preserving the pristine beauty of the Andean wilderness. From eco-friendly camping practices to waste reduction initiatives, every effort is made to ensure that the Inca Trail remains unspoiled for future generations to enjoy. Additionally, Alpaca Expeditions actively engages in community development projects, supporting local schools, healthcare facilities, and infrastructure improvements in the surrounding villages.

### Need to know

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Inca Trail treks
- Alternative treks including Salkantay Trek
- Rainbow Mountain trek
- Day tours
- Fully customised itineraries

#### GET IN TOUCH

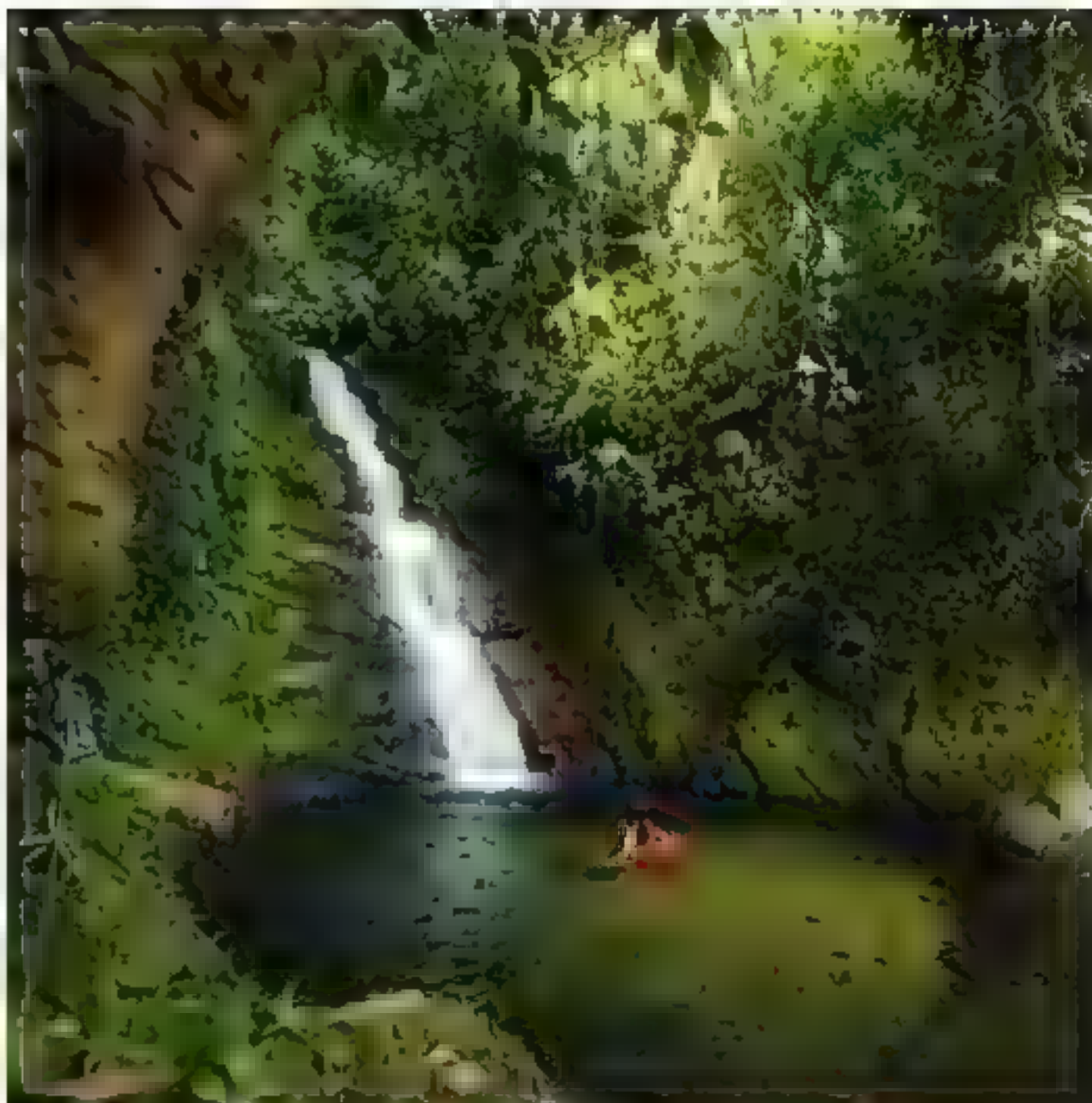
[alpacaexpeditions.com](http://alpacaexpeditions.com)

T: +51 84 254278 / +202 550 8534

E: [info@alpacaexpeditions.com](mailto:info@alpacaexpeditions.com)

**DON'T MISS** The Salkantay Trek is the most popular alternative trek, and includes a stay in glass cabanas, sleeping under a sky full of stars





# Bosque Guardián Lodge

TARAPOTO, PERU

Bosque Guardián Lodge is a refuge within the Andean Amazon where travellers can reconnect with their senses through nature. It seeks to redefine the term ‘luxury’ to offer complete comfort in the Amazon Rainforest while leading conservation efforts to protect it. The lodge has been part of the Bosque Guardián association since 2018, which develops environmental and community projects in the Cordillera Escalera mountain range.

Located 45 minutes from the city of Tarapoto in the San Martín Region and surrounded by the Tiraco and Ponasillo rivers, every space in the lodge has been built with bamboo and recycled timber. Cosy bungalows with terraces overlook the Cordillera Escalera mountain range, while the lodge’s architecture enables travellers to take in the forest’s greenery, even from the bathroom’s shower.

The lodge’s Callampa restaurant offers a unique dining experience with contemporary and sustainable Amazonian cuisine. Here, travellers can enjoy a three-course meal made from produce harvested from the property’s bio-orchard and foraged from the forest.

The experiences on offer aim to deepen guests’ knowledge of the rainforest while also teaching them how to care for it. Bosque Guardián monitors the environmental wellbeing of the Amazon at various levels, including the Plan Jaguar, a system of camera traps that help maintain the habitat of this great South American feline.

The lodge also focuses on recognition, research and agroforestry — with a spotlight on cacao as well as social initiatives, such as stingless beekeeping and the Bosques de Papel artisanal paper workshop, where local women work with natural fibres and recycled paper to manufacture notebooks, wallets, among other handcrafted pieces.

Trails lead travellers through their exploration of the forest, from sedate walks to scenic viewpoints, to wending through a primary forest and encountering ancient trees, survivors of the deforestation that motivates ongoing rainforest preservation.

Guests can combine excursions with relaxation courtesy of massage sessions, including head massages with bamboo canes. Bosque Guardián Lodge also offers yoga and meditation spots.

## Need to know

### KEY FEATURES

- Restaurant
- Bar
- Scenic viewpoints
- Massage room

### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Guardian Trees Trail
- Nighttime wildlife
- Paper workshop visit
- Melipona beehives visit
- Cacao and chocolate route
- Birdwatching
- Waterfall hikes

### GET IN TOUCH

[bosqueguardianlodge.com](https://bosqueguardianlodge.com)  
T: +51 9010 52452  
E: [reservas@bosqueguardian.com](mailto:reservas@bosqueguardian.com) / [info@bosqueguardian.com](mailto:info@bosqueguardian.com)

**DON'T MISS** Refresh yourself with a dip in the natural pools amid the awe-inspiring nature of the Amazonian Rainforest





# Grand Amazon Lodge and Tours

## IQUITOS, PERU

Embarking on a journey to the Amazon rainforest with Grand Amazon Lodge and Tours offers a unique immersion into one of the natural wonders of the world. This experience is enhanced by the personalised attention of a private guide for each guest. The all-inclusive package covers meals, accommodation, a sail on the Amazon River and airport or hotel transfers from Iquitos,

The lodge sits in a wildlife-rich area nestled in the untouched primary rainforest near the village of San Juan de Yanayacu that belongs to the Tamshiyacu Tahuayo reserve. It is home to over 10 monkey species, ranging from pygmy marmosets (just six inches in length) to nocturnal owl monkeys distinguished by their large eyes. The region boasts a vibrant array of bird species, including colourful macaws, striking toucans, vocal horned screamers, prehistoric hoatzin birds and even critically endangered wattled curassows.

The lodge's location offers guests the chance to encounter sloths, capybaras, caimans, lizards, frogs, giant river otters and both pink and gray river dolphins. Guests can also unwind in between

excursions by rocking on hammocks at their bungalow balconies, enjoying serene river views and the enchanting sounds of the jungle.

The lodge stands out for its commitment to an authentic and immersive Amazon experience. Positioned furthest upstream on the Yanayacu River in primary rainforest, away from the hustle of Amazon boat traffic and other lodges, it's the only facility in the area powered by solar panels, minimising the need for disruptive generators. The culinary experience is equally remarkable, with a creative chef serving authentic dishes in a stunning octagonal dining room featuring a canoe bar, where traditional pisco sours await.

Founded by five scientists driven by a passion for nature and community, the lodge not only offers an unforgettable exploration of the world's largest rainforest, but also contributes to the preservation of its ecosystem. From vital medical aid and educational support to carefully executed wildlife reintroduction projects for manatees and Taricaya turtles, the lodge is at the forefront of positive change.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- Wi-fi
- 24-hour electricity
- Fans
- Hammocks
- Tea and coffee
- Common area
- Dining Area
- Canoe Bar

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Canoe and boat trips
- Hiking
- Fishing
- Morning, afternoon and night excursions

### GET IN TOUCH

[grandamazontours.com](https://grandamazontours.com)

T: +51 940 582 330

E: [info@grandamazontours.com](mailto:info@grandamazontours.com)

**DON'T MISS** Keep an eye out for the laid-back sloths  
– easiest to spot at the tops of trees drying out after any rain





# TreXperience

## PERU

The Classic Inca Trail to Machu Picchu is one of the world's most famous treks that takes you on an unforgettable journey through the heart of the ancient Inca civilisation. This four-day hike covers about 26 miles and traverses a wide variety of landscapes, from cloud forests to high mountain passes, while offering spectacular views of the surrounding Andes mountains.

The trail begins near the town of Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley and ends at the legendary Lost City of Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Along the way, trekkers pass several fascinating archaeological sites, such as Patallacta, Runkuraqay, Sayacmarca, Phuyupatamarca, Intipata and Wiñay Wayna, before finally arriving at Machu Picchu through the Sun Gate.

The Inca Trail was an essential part of the extensive Inca road system that connected the vast Inca Empire. Intrepid hikers who embark on this trail walk in the same footsteps as the ancient Incas and gain insights into their impressive construction skills and the civilisation's rich cultural heritage.

It's also the most popular route to reach the iconic Machu Picchu. The ruins of this ancient city are nestled high in the Andes and are a prime example of Inca architecture and urban planning. Apart from Machu Picchu, the Inca Trail is dotted with breathtaking natural scenery and a variety of flora that can only be found in this region.

Porters play a crucial role in making the trek possible and more enjoyable for hikers. They carry most equipment, food and camping gear, allowing trekkers to focus on the hike and fully immerse themselves in the experience. Porters on the Inca Trail also contribute to the local economy by providing employment opportunities for residents.

The trek can be challenging due to the high altitude, rugged terrain, steep ascents and descents, so it's essential to be in good physical shape and properly acclimatised before attempting it. Also, a limited number of trekkers are allowed on the trail every day, and visitors are required to get a permit and travel with a licensed tour operator. Despite any challenges, this trek promises an unforgettable experience that's well-worth undertaking.

### Need to know

#### KEY FEATURES

- A high-end trekking and camping experience
- Entry to Machu Picchu through the Sun Gate
- Exploration of spectacular Inca sites
- Supporting local employment
- Luxury upgrades available

#### KEY ACTIVITIES

- Inca Trail tours
- Machu Picchu treks
- Cusco day tours
- Tailor-made adventures

### GET IN TOUCH

[trexperienceperu.com](https://trexperienceperu.com)

T: +51 920 729 953

E: [info@trexperienceperu.com](mailto:info@trexperienceperu.com)

**DON'T MISS** Embark on an epic trek to Machu Picchu and explore some of the most incredible archaeological sites on the planet





Visit  
**Tulum**

*From the*  
**Caribbean Sea**  
*to the* **Mayan Jungle**

Tulum, the pearl of Quintana Roo's vibrant landscapes, whispers history through the ancient Mayan ruins of Coba and Tulum. The former emerges from the dense jungle, while the latter overlooks the Caribbean Sea, both echoing centuries-old tales. The newly unveiled Jaguar National Park, a testament to Mexico's commitment to nature, sits alongside these historical marvels, offering a fresh haven for explorers. The magical beaches and the verdant Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO treasure, promise unparalleled natural beauty. Tulum's rich culture, bursting with aromatic flavours and vibrant colours, invites you into a sensory journey. Tulum represents the perfect blend in between a blooming culture, breathtaking adventure, and a vast diverse nature.

[www.visittulum.travel](http://www.visittulum.travel)  
visittulumofficial





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